



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Arab-Israeli Talks

Multilateral Arms Control Seminar Opens in Cairo

NC1107101993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT
11 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jul (MENA)—David 'Ivri, director general of the Israeli Defense Ministry, and his delegation arrived in Cairo this morning to participate in a seminar on ways to verify accords on arms control and confidence-building measures due to open today.

The seminar is an offshoot of the committee in charge of arms control in the Middle East, which stems from the multilateral talks. It is the first such meeting on multilateral talks to be held in a Middle East capital.

[In a related report, Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic at 0900 GMT on 11 July adds: "The Cairo seminar on ways to verify accords on arms control and confidence building within the framework of a multilateral talks' working group in charge of arms control began this morning.

["Ambassador Nabil Fahmi, the head of Egypt's delegation, addressed the seminar, asserting Egypt's commitment to working toward disarmament in general, especially in the Middle East. He also affirmed the importance of the commitment of all the region's countries to work to free the region of mass destruction, chemical, and biological weapons.

["During the three-day seminar, experts will discuss measures to verify nuclear, chemical, biological, and space armament, conventional weapons, and confidence-building measures."]

Inter-Arab Affairs

AMU Official Comments on Iraq-Kuwait Border Dispute

LD1207220693 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 2100
GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The Kuwaiti ambassador to Morocco, Sulayman al-Murjan, met in Tunis, the capital, this evening with Mohamed Amamou, Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] secretary general, where he delivered a message from Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, first deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister.

Ambassador Sulayman al-Murjan told KUNA that the message of the deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister to the AMU secretary general contained the documents, maps, and legal reasoning on which the international committee had relied in its work for demarcating the borders between Kuwait and Iraq.

The AMU secretary general expressed his hope that the results that the international committee for demarcating the borders arrived at would be final, and that the

opposite side would, in the same way as the Kuwaiti side, demonstrate the good intention and sincere desire to close the file completely in the service of the interests of the Arab nation.

Arab League Condemns Israel's Actions in Lebanon

NC1107210493 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio
Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] The Arab League today condemned the Israeli aggression against south Lebanon and said that Israel's aggression and military escalation seek to increase tension in the region to weaken the ongoing efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East.

In an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent, Ambassador 'Adnan 'Imran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political affairs, said that Israel believes that it enjoys international protection at the Security Council that precludes the issuance of any resolution condemning it or forcing it to stop its aggression. He added: This is particularly true since it has been conclusively proved that Security Council resolutions against Israel are put on hold, such as the case in Resolutions 242 and 383, and that Israel manages to obtain maximum support at the same time it is committing the most appalling crimes of murder, displacement, and brutality against Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

Discusses Pan-Arab Security

NC1207181893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1323 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid chaired a meeting of the League's Pan-Arab Security Committee at the Arab League General Secretariat headquarters today. Assistant secretaries general and a number of the League's advisers attended.

The meeting was devoted to the discussion of a comprehensive concept of pan-Arab security that will be submitted to the League's council when it meets in September in implementation of the Arab League Council's resolution during its previous session.

Islamic Affairs

ICO Convenes Session To Discuss Situation in Bosnia

Iran's Velayati Arrives

NC1207063893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of
Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Our Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati arrived in Pakistan last night to attend the extraordinary session of

16 members of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

According to the Central News Unit in Islamabad, Dr. Velayati spoke briefly to correspondents at the airport and referred to the influence and opinions of some UN Security Council members, saying: The Security Council has taken no decisive measures to prevent the rights of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina from being jeopardized. The military embargo continues. Dr. Velayati said he hoped the participants in the Islamabad session could reach a consensus on Bosnia.

The session will begin its two days of deliberations in Islamabad today, during which it will discuss details on the manner of sending military forces from Islamic countries to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Velayati, Pakistan's Khanjoo Meet

*LD1207132493 Tehran IRNA in English 1251 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Islamabad, July 12, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mohammad Siddique Khanjoo here Monday [12 July] held talks on the emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) here.

They surveyed the current developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina and stressed the need for delivery of relief aids to the people of the republic.

Velayati, Bosnia's Silajdzic Meet

*LD1207150693 Tehran IRNA in English 1427 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Islamabad, July 12, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati reviewed the latest developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic here today.

Silajdzic elaborated on his country's stances concerning the solutions so far proposed to end the war and Serbian aggressions in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We are short of basic needs including water, foodstuff and medicine, while Serbian military equipment is increasing every day," he said, calling for deep attention of the participants in the emergency meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to the basic needs of the Bosnian people.

Foreign ministers of 16 OIC member-states are attending a three-day extraordinary meeting here to review the despatch of an Islamic peace-keeping force to Bosnia as well as avenues to provide more aid to the war-stricken people in the republic.

Velayati in reply blamed the international community for its procrastination towards the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and hoped that Islamic countries would be

able to take practical and effective steps for the restoration of peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In another meeting, Velayati discussed the latest developments in B-H as well as contribution of the Islamic countries to the despatch of a peace-keeping force to the republic with his Malaysian counterpart Abdullah Badawi.

The two sides underscored the need for further cooperation and coordination among the Islamic countries to end the war in the republic. Badawi in the meeting informed Velayati on the recent talks of the Malaysian officials with several Islamic countries for finding some solutions to settle the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Velayati on Readiness To Send Troops

*LD1307094393 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT
13 Jul 93*

[Text] Islamabad, July 13, IRNA—Visiting Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Monday [12 July] voiced Iran's full readiness to dispatch troops as well as arms to Bosnia-Herzegovina [B-H]. Interviewed by IRNA, Velayati said that during the ongoing foreign ministerial meeting of 16 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), a number of participating countries, including Iran, expressed readiness to dispatch peace-keeping forces to B-H.

He added that the dispatch of forces would be carried out unconditionally and on the basis of a request made by the Bosnian foreign minister. According to Velayati, the OIC countries willing to send forces to B-H asked the U.N. secretary general's representative in the meeting to benefit most from the readiness of the OIC member countries. He expressed hope that the U.N. Security Council would take advantage of the opportunity without any excuse and reinforce the peace-keeping forces in B-H through accepting the Islamic states request.

As for financing the required budget for dispatching troops to B-H, Velayati said that the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) would grant loans to those countries which lack financial capability and the bank in turn would demand a refund from the United Nations.

Velayati left Tehran for Islamabad Sunday to take part in the two-day extraordinary meeting of OIC foreign ministers to consider ways of dispatching troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Saudi Minister of State Arrives

*LD1207135293 Riyadh SPA in English 1254 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Islamabad, July 12, (SPA)—The Minister of State and cabinet member Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud arrived here on Monday [12 July] to lead the Saudi

delegation to the expanded ministerial meeting of the 21st Islamic Conference which will probe the problem of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The kingdom is a member of the liaison team on Bosnia-Herzegovina, which was formed by the Islamic foreign ministers conference during its fifth extraordinary session held in Istanbul.

The Islamic Conference Bureau includes the foreign ministers of Pakistan, Tunisia, Uganda, Palestine and Turkey.

The two-day expanded meetings will be attended by the members of the liaison team which include Pakistan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iran, Senegal and Malaysia.

The foreign ministers of Bangladesh, Indonesia, Morocco and Algeria will also attend the meeting, because they have expressed their countries' readiness to participate in the U.N. peace-keeping force in the former Yugoslav republic.

The foreign ministers of Brunei and Djibouti have also been invited because their countries are members of the Security Council.

Sharif Addresses Meeting

BK1207123793 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1046 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Speech by Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif opening the "special" meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization foreign ministers at the Prime Minister's Secretariat Hall in Islamabad —live]

[Text] Your Highnesses, Excellencies, Mr. Secretary General, ladies and gentlemen: I would like to express my government's appreciation to all of you for having responded positively to Pakistan's call for an urgent special meeting of the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] on the grave situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We have taken this initiative to end the tragedy that has engulfed our brothers and sisters in Bosnia. I welcome the distinguished secretary general of ICO, Dr. Hamid al-Ghabid. We are thankful for his contribution in organizing this important meeting at such short notice. I also warmly welcome the honorable foreign ministers and other heads of delegations. I especially welcome in our midst the foreign minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Excellencies, the tragic events in Bosnia-Herzegovina represent a grave threat to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. In flagrant violation of the accepted norms of interstate conduct, a sovereign state is being destroyed. The 2 million Muslims of Bosnia are being subjected to genocide. Sadly, the world community has failed to resolve the serious crisis in Bosnia. This failure has undermined our expectations that a just and equitable international order would emerge in the post-cold war era. The world has watched in horror and disbelief the brutal Serbian aggression and

genocide against the Bosnian Muslims. Hundreds of thousands of Bosnians have been massacred, including 35,000 innocent children. Several hundred thousands have become refugees. Forty thousand Muslim women and girls have been systematically raped by Serbian forces.

Regrettably, the various plans for a political settlement in Bosnia have not addressed the real issue of Serbia's blatant aggression and occupation of Bosnia. The absence of effective steps to halt and reverse Serbian aggression has encouraged Serbia to continue with its deplorable action. The plan for the partition of Bosnia is contrary to the agreed principles for establishing peace and stability in Bosnia. It is unfortunate that the recent resolutions sponsored by Pakistan and other Islamic countries to exempt Bosnia from the application of unjust arms embargo was not adopted by the UN Security Council. A state that is a victim of aggression cannot be prevented from exercising its sovereign right to individual and collective self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

In this regard, I wish to express our appreciation to the United States of America for having voted in favor of the proposal to lift the arms embargo. We look forward to the continuous positive contribution of the United States in the quest for peace with justice in Bosnia. We were, however, heartened by the fact that Muslim countries working in close coordination managed the successful passage of a resolution on Bosnia at the recent world conference on human rights in Vienna. Such close cooperation among Pakistan and other Muslim countries is an expression of the anguish and concern felt by Muslims over the plight of the Bosnian Muslims.

The position of the ICO on the conflict in Bosnia is based on internationally recognized principles governing relations between sovereign and independent states. We have called for resolute action to put an end to the Serbian aggression and to fully restore the territorial integrity, unity, and sovereignty of Bosnia. Our concern for Bosnia is heightened by the perception that the sovereign state in Europe is a victim of double standards and selective morality.

Excellencies, this meeting has been called to devise complete measures to assist the people of Bosnia, who are confronted with the prospect of the disappearance of their country. It is imperative that we agree on a specific plan of action to promote a just settlement of the war in Bosnia. The ICO could consider the following elements of such a plan.

First, we should call on the world community to halt the continuing hostilities in Bosnia. The Security Council should once again demand an immediate cease-fire and cessation of hostilities. The United Nations peace-keeping forces should be provided the authority to enforce the ceasefire. Second, steps should be taken to ensure full respect for the security of the safe areas recognized by the United Nations Security Council in

Resolution 836. This requires, above all, the immediate deployment of additional UN troops in and around these safe areas. Third, the UN forces in Bosnia must be given the authority to ensure the uninterrupted flow of humanitarian assistance to the people in these safe areas. Fourth, the following principles should be the basis for future negotiations: The immediate and complete cessation of hostilities; the vacation of territories acquired by use of force and ethnic cleansing; reversal of the consequences of the ethnic cleansing, including the return of all Bosnian refugees to their homes; and preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Excellencies, the desperate situation of our Bosnian brothers demand an immediate and concrete manifestation of support from Islamic countries. We must not fail them in their hour of need. Pakistan has offered to provide a sizable number of troops to the UN Protection Force in Bosnia. As an active participant in other UN peacekeeping operations, Pakistan is fully aware of the risks inherent in the undertaking of this nature. Recently 27 Pakistani soldiers sacrificed their lives in the UN peace enforcement operations in Somalia. Despite this grave loss, the commitment of our nation to the maintenance of international peace and security remains unwavering. The ICO countries can make a major contribution to safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and to the survival of its Muslim population by committing an adequate number of troops for duty under the UN command.

This meeting provides the Islamic countries the opportunity to coordinate all issues among themselves relating to their effective participation in the UN Protection Force in Bosnia. Let there be no doubt that today's meeting in Islamabad is not only a test of the Muslim world to resolve to uphold the fundamental rights of the Bosnian Muslims, but also to stand by a member of the ICO which is being subjected to aggression and occupation. Let it not be said that we did not measure up to the expectations, hopes, and aspirations of the Muslim ummah [community]. If today the Serbian aggression is allowed to go unchecked, it would set a dangerous precedent for other regions where similar situations may arise.

God forbid, if Bosnia is dismembered, the principles on which the main international order must be structured would be damaged severely. We must remain mindful that the violations of the universally recognized principles of international conduct in the past have caused untold misery and deprivation in Palestine and Kashmir.

Palestinians have been denied the right of self-determination for over 45 years. The Palestinian people continue to suffer foreign occupation. The success of the peace process in the Middle East will depend ultimately on the recognition of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people.

Excellencies, similarly, for over four decades the people of Kashmir have been denied the basic right of self-determination. Since January 1990, the Kashmiri people have waged a heroic freedom struggle against India's brutal repression and illegal occupation. Over 30,000 Kashmiris have been killed, thousands tortured, hundreds of Kashmiri women have been raped. (Entire) communities have been destroyed. Despite these atrocities, the Kashmiri people continue to fight for the right of self-determination which was pledged to them by the United Nations. The Kashmiri people have been encouraged by the forthright support of the Islamic countries to their just struggle which is popular, widespread, spontaneous, and indigenous.

Excellencies, let me once again thank you for responding positively to our invitation to attend the special ICO ministerial meeting. Pakistan sincerely hopes that our discussions at this critical juncture for the Bosnian nation would be productive. We must strive collectively to avert the dismemberment of Bosnia-Herzegovina—a sovereign and independent state which is a member of the United Nations and of our organization. It is our fervent belief that by the grace of almighty Allah we will succeed in providing tangible assistance to our brothers and sisters in Bosnia. Their cause is just; it deserves the world's support. We must not fail our Bosnian brethren in their hour of need. I wish you all success in your deliberations. Thank you. [applause]

Bosnian Foreign Minister Addresses Session

BK1207145093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Inaugurating the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] conference, the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, called for immediate cessation of hostilities in Bosnia, saying that it should not be prevented from its sovereign right to individual and collective defense. [passage omitted]

Addressing the conference, the secretary general of the ICO, Mr. Hamid al-Ghabid, called for immediate and durable cease-fire throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina. He called on the ICO member states to explore all avenues securing effective truce arrangements in the area.

Dr. Hamid al-Ghabid, on this occasion, also specifically mentioned atrocities committed by Indian and Israeli forces in Kashmir and Palestine. He urged the world community to get the issues resolved in accordance with the UN resolutions.

The foreign minister of Bosnia, Mr. Haris Silajdzic, expressed the hope that the conference will produce concrete measures to save the people of Bosnia from annihilation. He said we are being destroyed only because we are Muslims. He dispelled the impression that there is a civil war in Bosnia. Instead, he said, Bosnia is a victim of foreign aggression by the regime in Belgrade. He warned the world community, especially

the smaller nations, that if concrete measures are not taken, the (?method) used in Bosnia could be repeated somewhere else as well.

The conference has been sponsored by Pakistan as chairman of the ICO foreign ministers conference. It is being attended 17 Muslim countries, including Bosnia-Herzegovina. Pakistan Television correspondent reports that the participating countries are expected to demand an immediate cessation of hostilities. Besides, it will commit troops under the United Nations command to ensure that once peace is achieved, it will not be violated again.

Pakistani Spokesman on Session's Progress

BK1307094793 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] At their special meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina in Islamabad, the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers agreed to achieve an effective and just political settlement of the Bosnian problem through negotiations, provided such a settlement brings an end to the war and ensures the territorial integrity and security of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Briefing reporters on the discussions, a Foreign Office spokesman said the delegates focused their attention on the plan of action prepared by Pakistan after consultations with the ICO coordination group. They specifically considered three major issues, including the provision of military troops from the ICO member-states for the UN protection force and the creation of the required congenial atmosphere for the negotiation process to be successful.

The spokesman said: In accordance with the suggestion of the UN secretary general, the total number of troops to be contributed by the Islamic countries has exceeded 60,600. He said the Islamic countries have no clear idea about matters like the mandate of the troops to be included in the UN protection force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the structure of the command, the supply of weapons, and air support. The ICO is seeking clarifications from the United Nations on these matters. The spokesman attributed the failure of the negotiation process and the deteriorating situation in Bosnia to the nonacceptance of the cease-fire by Serbs and Croats and their continuous aggression. He pointed out that the UN Security Council's categorical resolution calling for a cease-fire is a precondition for the negotiations, and the United Nations and major powers must provide guarantees concerning the implementation of the agreement that may be reached.

Members Decide To Send Troops

NC1307084593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The spokesman for the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] announced yesterday that the representatives of Islamic countries who met in Islamabad have reached a consensus on sending forces to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

According to our correspondent, this decision will be announced officially at the conclusion of the deliberations of the foreign ministers and the representatives of 16 Islamic countries.

The report states that Munir Akram, spokesman for the ICO, informed correspondents that some Islamic countries had agreed to dispatch forces to Bosnia-Herzegovina. He added: As soon as the proposals are accepted, we will be able to send more than 7,000 soldiers to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Our correspondent from Islamabad reports that Dr. Velayati stressed that the forces should be allowed to participate in command matters.

Palestinian Affairs

Sha'th Interviewed on Israeli-PLO Contacts

JN1207192493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1450 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Telephone interview with Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in Cairo, by correspondent Emile Khaz'al on 12 July, carried within "With the Events" feature—recorded]

[Text] [Khaz'al] Good evening, Dr. Nabil Sha'th.

[Sha'th] Good evening.

[Khaz'al] REUTER quoted you today as saying that high-level contacts have actually been held between the Israeli Government and the PLO. How true are these reports by the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ?

[Sha'th] Various forms of contacts have been taking place, particularly since the passage of an Israeli bill that revoked the ban on contacts with the PLO. Many such contacts were held with Israeli figures who were in the opposition, but who aren't any longer. They are now partners in the Israeli coalition government. Hence, the issue of contacts is nothing new. I believe that what is new is that there is now a majority within the Israeli Government that wants to see the PLO sit at the negotiating table and negotiate directly with the Israeli Government, as recently announced by some. I believe that this is what started the debate over this issue. Without such a development, I do not think that it would be possible to promote the negotiating process as rapidly as we all want.

[Khaz'al] My question concerns the Israeli figures who held contacts with the PLO in Tunis. Were they Knesset members or cabinet ministers?

[Sha'th] I have answered some people who posed this question to me before by saying that the important thing is not to provide names, dates, or venues, or even to reveal the issues discussed. I do not want to delve into this issue. However, it suffices to say that these contacts

have continued and that they must be promoted so that the PLO is not kept away from the negotiating table.

[Khaz'al] Were the Israeli figures who held contacts with the PLO authorized to do so by the Israeli Government?

[Sha'th] I think so. I also think that it is impossible to hold such contacts without the prior endorsement of two figures: namely, Yasir 'Arafat and Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Khaz'al] Have these contacts produced any specific results?

[Sha'th] To the best of my knowledge, there have been no results thus far. However, I do know that there are continuous endeavors in this regard. As you are well aware, we are currently experiencing a very difficult situation in the negotiations over the issues of Jerusalem, territory, and other issues. No solutions have thus far been identified for these issues.

[Khaz'al] Here in Israel, there is a debate between rightist and leftist quarters over the usefulness of direct contacts between the Israeli Government and the PLO. In your opinion, how can such Israeli-PLO contacts be useful?

[Sha'th] I believe that when two peoples eventually decide to establish peace between them after many long years of conflict, each party must be represented by its leadership in the negotiations to reach such an eventuality. This is the way true negotiations can be held to reach a just peace that can be accepted by the two peoples. Hence, I believe that the direct presence of the PLO at the negotiating table would aid rather than obstruct the peace process.

[Khaz'al] Do you think that a public meeting between Israeli and PLO representatives could be held in the near future?

[Sha'th] At present, various forms of such meetings are being held. Between 24-26 June, a seminar was held in Milan. This seminar was attended by Israeli deputies and officials as well as a PLO team headed by [PLO Executive Committee member] Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh. Hagay Mirom led the Israeli side in this seminar. Such public meetings do take place. Indeed, they have not stopped.

[Khaz'al] I mean a public meeting at an official level?

[Sha'th] Let us hope for such an eventuality. Let us hope for such a development.

[Khaz'al] Dr. Nabil Sha'th, you are in Cairo, holding contacts with Egyptian officials on the U.S. document. How have these talks progressed?

[Sha'th] These talks will today move to Jerusalem, since the U.S. team currently visiting the region will meet with the Palestinian delegation headed by Mrs. Hanan 'Ashrawi and Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayyat. Hence, I believe that we are maintaining this dialogue, either directly or through our Egyptian brothers. I hope that we will eventually reach a

result. Ultimately, the U.S. team must obtain an improved Israeli position so that we may break the logjam facing us. There is no alternative to the attainment of true progress in line with the terms of reference agreed upon prior to the launching of the peace process.

[Khaz'al] Since you are the coordinator of the Palestinian negotiating team appointed by the PLO, why have Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi and Fayal al-Husayni failed to meet with Dennis Ross in Jerusalem?

[Sha'th] As a matter of fact, we have a delegation comprised of various figures, each of whom can replace any other. Fayal is currently abroad for important meetings. Similarly, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi led the Palestinian side to the last round of bilateral talks in Washington for some time. Then, he underwent surgery there. The Palestinian negotiating team is a single team, regardless of whether some team members are inside or outside the territories. As for the figures present in the territories on a specific occasion, they have our recognition. Furthermore, they receive instructions and implement them. All this takes place within the context of the delegation's work. Indeed, there is no problem in this regard. There is no reason that should prompt us to choose one person rather than another for such meetings. Whoever is there is instructed to accomplish certain missions; and he accomplishes these missions, in cooperation with his team.

[Khaz'al] Once again, do you believe that official and public Israeli-PLO contacts will be announced soon?

[Sha'th] As a matter of fact, this issue is to be decided by the Israeli Government rather than the PLO. The PLO has declared and continues to declare that it is willing to take part in such public meetings. President 'Arafat has repeatedly called for a meeting with Prime Minister Rabin. I do believe that the ball is now in the Israeli court. If Israel sincerely wishes to promote the peace process to reach a just and durable peace, then it must declare a willingness to take part in such meetings. As far as I am concerned, I am well aware that the Israeli public opinion, as well as a majority within the Knesset and the Israeli Government, are supportive of such a move. So, let us take this important step to achieve true peace.

[Khaz'al] Do you think that Yitzhaq Rabin could take such a step soon?

[Sha'th] I hope so. We want to resolve problems. There are problems on the ground, as you are well aware. Our people are experiencing severe agonies. I am also aware that there is Israeli concern over the slow progress of the peace negotiations. In the same vein, there is Palestinian concern over this. Rabin must assume his historic responsibility by pushing forward the efforts to promote the peace process to help achieve true peace as soon as possible.

[Khaz'al] Thank you, Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to PLO chairman.

[Sha'th] Thank you.

'Arafat Denies PLO-Israeli Meetings Held

NC1307100293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0947 GMT
13 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA)—Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, clarified that what he meant in his recent statement to an international news agency about the Israeli meetings with the PLO is that attempts were made to meet with the Israelis in Washington but that these attempts failed and these meetings were not held.

In a statement distributed here today by the Palestinian Information Office, Yasir 'Arafat added that the PLO is ready to hold contacts with the Israelis despite the failure. He noted that he had already called for a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to conclude the "peace of the bold" and that he had reiterated his appeal at the OAU summit in Cairo.

An international news agency disseminated yesterday Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's statements and quoted him as saying that talks were held between Israeli and PLO officials.

'Arafat Informed of Russian Plan To Send Peace Envoy

LD1207173993 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine and head of the PLO Executive Committee, received the Russian ambassador to Tunisia this afternoon. The Russian ambassador briefed brother President Abu-'Ammar on upcoming Russian movements concerning the peace process, namely, the efforts being exerted to push the peace process forward, and President Boris Yeltsin's decision to send a special Russian envoy to the Middle East to meet President Abu-'Ammar and discuss the peace process developments.

'Secret' Report Cited on Talks With U.S. Envoy

JN1307083193 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
13 Jul 93 pp 20, 16

[By Riyadh Mansur]

[Text] Amman—A secret Palestinian report received by Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has revealed that Dennis Ross, special coordinator of the peace talks, has asked members of the negotiating Palestinian delegation to avoid the difficult demands disputed with Israel on which agreement cannot currently be reached.

The report was prepared by Sa'ib 'Urayqat, deputy head of the delegation, and Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the delegation, as well as Dr. Ghassan al-Khatib, Zakariya al-Agha, and Nabil Qassis, members of

the delegation, who met with Ross at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem. It said that the U.S. envoy expressed his willingness to formulate a new letter of assurances to be presented to the Palestinians.

The report said that Ross told the Palestinian delegation that he wants to hear their demands. Ross also expressed Washington's willingness to listen to and discuss any provision in the U.S. document that the Palestinian side wants to discuss.

The Palestinian report noted that the U.S. envoy asked the delegation to distinguish between the official U.S. stand on the Middle East issue and the practical stand needed to reach a solution. The U.S. envoy noted that the U.S. document is only aimed at bridging viewpoints between the Palestinians and Israelis.

The Palestinian delegation's report said that Ross was aiming to convince the negotiating delegation to agree to the transfer of many fields of power, especially health, education, and social welfare. This means transferring the civil administration authority from an Israeli official to a Palestinian administrative official under the canopy of military administration.

The report added that the special coordinator of the peace talks called on the Palestinian delegation to accept these powers as a good start. He added: When you accept these powers, you will receive a large amount of aid from Europe, Japan, and Saudi Arabia.

Delegation Presents Autonomy Proposal to U.S. Team

TA1307050093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405
GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The Palestinian representatives under Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi last night presented to the Americans a document containing clarifications, including an official PLO proposal on autonomy despite opposition by leftist representatives in the Palestinian delegation. In reaction, Dr. Ghassan al-Khatib boycotted the meeting with the U.S. peace team headed by Dennis Ross. Moti Amir, our correspondent in the territories, reports:

Shock waves are going through the Palestinian delegation. Palestinian representatives under Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi came to the meeting at the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem with an official PLO proposal to amend the clause in the U.S. document of principles dealing with the powers of the self-government authority and the boundaries of the autonomy, including East Jerusalem. In other words, a new version of the clause that constitutes the heart of the dispute between Israel and the Palestinians. After a 90-minute meeting, Dr. 'Ashrawi said that they discussed several basic issues, such as Jerusalem, the framework for the negotiations, and the autonomy's jurisdictional boundaries.

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording, in English] We presented them with an official formulation from the PLO on

jurisdiction, which includes the basic issues. Well, they were pleased with the formulation, with the fact that we did give them an official formulation on one item, and we will discuss it tomorrow. [end recording] [passage omitted]

About an hour before the meeting, Dr. Ghassan al-Khatib, a member of the Palestinian delegation, said he was boycotting the meeting with the U.S. delegates. In an announcement, he said that he was doing so because of his commitment to the Palestinian position that rejects the U.S. document of principles as a basis for continuing the negotiations. Dr. al-Khatib warned that any document presented by the Palestinians to the Americans does not have the backing of all factions that support the peace talks and will harm Palestinian unity and its peace negotiation strategy.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English at 0400 GMT on 13 July adds: "Israeli officials told a Qol Yisra'el reporter that the Americans now believe there is a chance to bridge the gap between Israel and the Palestinians. The U.S. team will also meet with Palestinian representatives later today."]

'Abd-al-Shafi Reaffirms Stance on Suspending Talks

TA1207153193 *Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic*
12 Jul 93 pp 1, 15

[Text] Gaza, QUDS PRESS—Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, the chief Palestinian negotiator, has said that any progress in the negotiations hinges on devoting attention to the Palestinian internal situation and providing everything necessary for utilizing the various Palestinian potentials. 'Abd-al-Shafi emphasized the need to conduct a national dialogue as soon as possible with the aim of arranging the Palestinian house.

'Abd-al-Shafi repeated his position that calls for suspending participation in the talks. He said that since the end of the eighth round, his own stance has been to suspend the talks, but he participated because he sensed that the Palestinian public was in favor of this participation as long as there were rounds. 'Abd-al-Shafi said that the situation in the future will depend on all the factors as I see them, although my own personal opinion says that the issue calls for suspension.

'Abd-al-Shafi explained that his nonparticipation in the meeting between some Palestinian figures and the U.S. envoy, Dennis Ross, was due to illness and his recent eye operation. As for Faysal al-Husayni's nonparticipation, he said that al-Husayni was away. Commenting on Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' statement that an agreement with the Palestinians was close, 'Abd-al-Shafi said: "I have no knowledge of this. As far as I know, there is nothing to indicate that an agreement is close. We have rejected the U.S. paper because it does not respond to our demands, especially regarding Jerusalem, jurisdiction over land, and settlements." 'Abd-al-Shafi said: "The negotiating delegation has no secrets

and we announce candidly to everyone whatever happens in the talks. There are no secret agreements."

'Abd-al-Shafi rejected the U.S. proposal to postpone discussion of the Jerusalem issue. He emphasized the need for Israel to acknowledge that the issue of Jerusalem has been raised at the table of negotiations in principle and that Jerusalem was an occupied area. Moreover, settlement in Jerusalem must be stopped.

On a question about whether the Egyptian side was exerting pressure on the negotiating delegation, 'Abd-al-Shafi said: "I have no reply about pressure by the Egyptian side. We are supposed to be custodians of rights. We must not give them up under any pressure."

'Abd-al-Shafi reaffirmed his stance on rejecting participation in the multilateral talks. He said that it was not reasonable to allow the normalization of Israel's relations with the Arab Gulf states at a time when it insists on disavowing Palestinian rights and obstructs progress in the bilateral talks. 'Abd-al-Shafi stressed the need of linking the multilateral talks with progress in the bilateral talks and Israel's retreat from its positions that contradict the concept of peace.

On the question as to what Israel is seeking from the talks after 10 rounds, 'Abd-al-Shafi said: "Obviously, Israel wants to give up administrative powers only, share the land with us, and consolidate itself in Jerusalem and its neighborhoods. This contravenes the terms of reference of the talks and Resolution 242."

'Abd-al-Shafi voiced support for Meretz call on Rabin's government to hand over the Gaza Strip to the PLO, provided that this is done within the framework of a comprehensive agreement over the occupied territories and in which there is a response to the Palestinian position. He stressed, however, that "this is rejected as a measure prior to reaching an agreement."

Commentary Evaluates Ross' Visit to Region

LD1207225593 *Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
1702 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, informed sources have confirmed that the results of the current visit of Dennis Ross to the region and his meetings with the officials concerned there will decide whether or not U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will be visiting the capitals of the region shortly, and this depends on whether these results are positive or negative. If the result is negative, it would mean that Washington will distance itself from the progress of the negotiations and the peace process, generally according to the threat that the U.S. Administration wishes to wave in one form or another. The threat is aimed directly at applying more pressures on the Arab sides and our Palestinian side in particular.

However, can America distance itself from the talks and can one say that the peace process is immune from the possibility of collapse? The more important question is this: Has the United States actually started to play the full partner in negotiations, and has it been able to play an honest role without being totally biased toward Israel?

It is clear in any event that Washington did not carry out what it had previously declared: playing a full negotiating role. It is also clear that all its continuous participation was within the framework of its bias in favor of the Israeli stance. This was revealed in the document that was brought by Mr. Ross. It confirmed the identity of views and agreement of the U.S. and Israeli stances, but it did not give serious consideration to our Palestinian stand.

Consequently, what is the effect of the American threat if the entire matter is in fact a harmony and agreement of the American and Israeli stands? The answer is tied at this difficult stage to the cohesion of the stance of the Arab sides concerned. If Ross has already heard a united coordinated Arab reply to his document and to the attitude of his administration—and we would like this reply to be united, and so it should be—Washington will realize by necessity that, without fail, we are seeking peace and not surrender.

With such awareness, the details will change in favor of the peace process in all the region.

Editorial Urges U.S. To Withdraw Document

TA0907153393 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 9 Jul 93
pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Jerusalem and Geographic Jurisdiction"]

[Text] The document of American "ideas" should not become a stroke of lightning to knock the peace process down. Therefore, in order to maintain this process, the solution for the current knot might be to put aside this document and enhance U.S.-Palestinian dialogue during Dennis Ross' current visit—a dialogue based on the negotiating concept that calls for Jerusalem and geographic jurisdiction to be included in the transitional stage.

The U.S. document ignored the Jerusalem issue and addressed geographic jurisdiction in vague terms and expressions. This led our Palestinian side, through numerous official statements, to reject this document, on one hand, and to adhere to the political and peace process, on the other.

Since such a document has grave implications and can actually threaten all the efforts and results accumulated over 20 months during 10 consecutive rounds, as a first step and in the interest of peace itself one should circumvent this dangerous draft and directly confront the core of the problem, represented by Jerusalem and geographic jurisdiction.

The serious question, however, is whether the United States, the sponsor and full partner, will actually hasten to withdraw or forgo the document that Mr. Ross is now carrying to the region's capitals, or will it do the opposite by clinging to the document and instructing its visiting envoy to exert pressure on the Arab capitals concerned?

In this context, Washington's responsibility is clear and decisively effective. Therefore, we hope that its role of full partner in this important stage will be based on the terms of reference of the talks, in accordance with international legitimacy and the commitment of the U.S. Administration itself throughout the previous stages.

Joint Arab Stance To Confront U.S. Paper Urged

TA1207162893 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 12 Jul 93
pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Arab Conclusion of Ross' Shuttle Tour"]

[Text] The U.S. coordinator, Dennis Ross, is continuing his shuttle tour of the region and meeting with officials in its capitals. Ultimately, he will prepare his papers to return to Washington and submit his report to his direct boss, Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

In light of this report—from which nothing has been leaked yet because of the secrecy with which Ross surrounds his talks and to which he has obligated the others as well—Christopher will decide whether to visit those same capitals soon or completely forgo this visit, about which a great deal has been said recently.

Evidently, Christopher's visit will signify further U.S. interest in the negotiating process. On the other hand, if the visit does not take place, this will signify the opposite and, perhaps, less U.S. participation. This has been indicated by Washington in the form of a "threat" to the parties concerned in the peace process in the region.

Naturally, this is only a U.S. conclusion within context of the U.S. perspective of the peace and negotiating process. As far as we are concerned, what is more important in these critical circumstances is the Arab conclusion on the Arab and Palestinian levels of this shuttle tour and its results.

What we hope for and stress is the need to achieve a joint—if not a unified—Arab stance to confront the U.S. proposal and engage in dialogue over this proposal, which Mr. Ross has carried and continues to carry in his papers from one capital to another.

If this happens, we are convinced that whether Mr. Christopher's visit takes place shortly or not, the U.S. Administration will be forced to reach a reasonable accommodation with this joint Arab stance in order to protect the peace process and continue it on realistic and balanced basis.

U.S. Efforts on Document Seen as Waste of Time

TA1207153393 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English
12 Jul 93

[Editorial: "Don't Push the U.S. Paper"]

[Text] It is a deplorable waste of precious time for the Clinton administration to try to sell its draft of the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles to the Palestinians and the other Arab parties. We believe that the administration better take the criticism from the Palestinian and other Arabs very seriously and review its policy. So far, however, all indications show that the Palestinians, and the Arabs in general, are being taken very lightly by the decision-makers in Washington.

How else can one explain the nearly complete adoption of the Israeli position by the U.S. Administration regarding the most essential elements of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and settlement. No explanation can convince the Palestinians and Arabs that the United States is seeking the implementation of the internationally endorsed Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle of land for peace, when it perceives the occupied Palestinian territories as "disputed territory."

Even more so when it excludes Jerusalem and gives Israel the same right of sovereignty over the land as that of the Palestinians, whose land fell under Israeli occupation in 1967.

The question we would like to ask the U.S. Administration is whether it really believes that such a policy will lead to peace in the region? And whether it is correct to deduce that the Clinton administration is interested in the negotiations failing totally in order to pave the way for the Israeli military apparatus to wage another war in the region, in an attempt to try to achieve an Arab surrender, which its previous assaults could not achieve?

Although this may sound awkward to many, we believe it is valid, particularly in light of recent statements made by the U.S. secretary of state, who warned that the United States may become engaged in other problems and lose interest in the Mideast peace efforts.

Current American policy is not an encouraging interpretation of the term "full partner," a role chosen by the administration itself. Besides adopting the Israeli positions, this policy is attempting to blackmail the Palestinians and Arabs by threatening to retreat from active participation in the process. Such a tactic belittles the Palestinians and Arabs as a bunch of children, who are being tormented with an Israeli attack if they reject what they are being offered.

We believe such a policy will not succeed. The Palestinians have nothing to lose by rejecting the U.S. proposals. They have already lost almost everything with the exception of their will and determination. No Palestinian is in the position of endorsing the eternal occupation of his land, because he simply has nothing to gain in the long run.

Paper Voices Pessimism on Outcome of Ross' Tour

TA1207183193 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
12 Jul 93 p 9

[Editorial: "Is There Anything Useful in Ross' Briefcase?"]

[Excerpt] Ross' shuttle visit to the region reminds us of past shuttle visits by many U.S. officials in their search for the "equation of peace" in the region. The current shuttle visit comes to revive the negotiating process, which had been stalled since its inception. The new U.S. Administration's promise to play the role of "full partner" has not helped. On the contrary, this role has highlighted the pro-Israel U.S. bias and has shown that the negotiating process cannot succeed, or even continue, if it remains without clear bases and terms of reference, relying solely on the resolutions of international legitimacy.

During Ross' shuttle roaming from one Arab capital to another and in his numerous and varied statements after each meeting, a basic and sensitive question arises: What can Ross possibly carry in his briefcase to activate the process, yet to emerge from slumber? Definitely, we can see that Ross cannot carry a great deal in terms of assuring the Palestinian side and affirming to us that the negotiations are being placed on the right track.

As the U.S. Administration announced in the first place, Ross will try to activate the stalled process. As far as the Americans are concerned, activating the process requires moving away as much as possible from addressing substantive issues said to be contentious. As far as the Palestinian side is concerned, however, they are basic issues. From this premise, Ross will focus on procedural matters to formulate a paper of general principles that can have numerous interpretations. This paper, which might be a modification of the previous U.S. paper, will postpone discussion of substantive issues, including that of Jerusalem, to a future stage.

Postponing discussion of issues that are of substance to the Palestinian side means conceding them in advance. Therefore, the Palestinian side must confront all pressure exerted on it in this respect, regardless of its source or the claim of its good intentions. The national cause is now being tested and is on the brink: Either it rises or collapses. [passage omitted]

'Urayqat Report on 10th Round, U.S. Stand

JN1307053393 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
12 Jul 93 p 30

["Text" of "a detailed report" presented to the Palestinian leadership by Sa'ib 'Urayqat, deputy chairman of the delegation to the peace talks with Israel—date not given]

[Text] I. The Clinton administration and its public relations with Israel:

A few hours before the start of the 10th round [of Arab-Israeli peace talks], the U.S. Administration defined, through Defense Secretary Les Aspin, the characteristics and form of U.S.-Israeli relations now and in the future. This definition is significant not because it carried anything new with regard to these relations, but because of its effect on the peace process, particularly with regard to the new American role—termed as a “full partner”—in the peace process. The U.S. role in the peace process cannot be understood without understanding the developments in U.S.-Israeli relations, because what will govern the nature of the U.S. role in the talks will largely depend on the nature of the relationship between the two countries. It seems that the administration of President Bill Clinton has begun to associate Israel with its vital interests in the region to compensate for the role Israel has lost now that the Cold War has ended.

This new association was the most important thing in Aspin's speech, which included:

The Dangers Facing Israel:

Secular and religious extremism: Both kinds of extremism threaten regional security and stability, the peace process, and consequently Israel's security.

Aspin said that religious extremism is expanding in Algeria, Jordan, Sudan, Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, and among the Palestinians. Escalation of violence in this phenomenon threatens Israel's security and western interests.

Secular extremism is represented by mass destruction, nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. Aspin said that this extremism appears in Syria, Iran, Libya, and Iraq.

In order to tackle this, Aspin said: This extremism must not continue. Planners in Israel and the United States must work in order to stop this extremism and find appropriate and suitable responses to it.

Aspin said that the U.S. Administration is committed to help Israel deal with this threat in order to increase prospects and opportunities of peace. This can be achieved through deepening the strategic partnership between both countries. And this means an American commitment to guarantee Israel's security and its peaceful coexistence with its neighbors.

Aspin said: We should also work to reformulate our strategic thinking in light of the changes in the world. All potential should be devoted in order to achieve this.

In light of all this, we can conclude the following:

1. The administration of President Bill Clinton links its interests with Israel's security and deals with both matters as if they are one thing. In other words, the role played by Israel in confronting the so-called “danger of Communist expansion” during the Cold War—the role

that was considered a cover for the distinguished relations between Washington and Tel Aviv—has been replaced by a larger headline: Israel's security is a part of the U.S. interests.

2. The dangers of the Cold War have been changed to the so-called danger of Islamic extremism and the danger of mass destruction weapons.

3. Any threat to regional security and the peace process means a threat Israel's security. This new linkage will ultimately lead to an Israeli peace. The U.S. Administration's acceptance of the Israeli concept of security means its acceptance of what Israel believes to be a peace formula. This will be directly linked with Western interests.

4. Placing Syria, which is participating in the peace process, on the list of countries posing a threat because it possesses weapons of mass destruction, means that if it wants peace it should unilaterally relinquish these weapons.

5. Joint planning in the security field or the formulation of the strategic relationship and their joint action to confront the dangers necessarily mean that the U.S. role in the peace process is that of a full partner of Israel and not a full partner in the peace process. This means that the current U.S. Administration has actually decided that the Arab parties should align their stands with the Israeli stands. This also means that the U.S. role in the negotiations will be to achieve what Israel has failed to achieve over 20 months of bilateral negotiations. Thus, the negotiations have actually entered the stage of the U.S. dictates.

II. The U.S. stands before and during the 10th round:

These U.S. stands became more apparent during the preliminary meetings in Washington on 10, 11, and 14 June, and the other meetings that were held during the negotiations. To clarify how the U.S. Administration's stands and its relationship with Israel affect the peace process, we must review the U.S. stands during the meetings that were held before and during the 10th round. We will review these relations and then deduce the results.

1. The unique relations between the United States and Israel contribute to the attainment of results. The Palestinian side in particular and the Arab side in general should view these relations from this angle and not from the angle of their being biased. They also should not point a finger of accusation at these relations.

2. The Palestinian side should focus its attention on the contents of the negotiations and exploit time because it is possible to achieve progress, and this can take place through confining attention to the negotiating table and not diverting attention to other issues. If this takes place, then it would be possible to influence the facts on the ground.

3. Israeli stands have developed. Therefore, Palestinian stands must develop, at least toward the U.S. side.

4. The U.S. role will not be that of an arbiter or a mediator because it will depend on the stands submitted at the negotiating table. The U.S. role will be that of a postman and will bridge the gap between these Israeli and Palestinian stands only. There will be no other stands from outside.

5. The Palestinian side should deal with the U.S. Administration on this basis. If the Palestinian side does not wish to do so, there will be no negotiations.

6. The basis of negotiations and the terms of reference consist of the Madrid invitation, dated 18 October 1991, and the declared U.S. stands or those contained in the letter of assurances. These will not be used now, and the U.S. Administration is not an arbiter. [sentence as published]

7. The U.S. role will develop only through the negotiations on content. This is the only way to change facts on the ground. The United States is the only country that can make Israel change its stands.

8. U.S. intervention in the negotiations means that the negotiations, from now on, will change in terms of form and content.

9. The Palestinian side should adopt the U.S. methodology by focusing on the possibility of bringing about a political document with more content than the one submitted on 22 May 1993. Major controversial issues should be left for negotiation at a later stage. What is required is a joint paper that will be less than a declaration of principles but more than the 12 May 1993 paper.

10. Emphasis in the paper should be on the interim self-government arrangements.

11. Negotiations on the content of the transitional period will be the key to the attainment of an agreement.

The following should be carried out:

a. The U.S. side shall reply to the Palestinian paper line by line.

b. There should be an official and responsible Palestinian reply to the 12 May 1993 paper.

c. The Palestinian side should submit its real stands to the U.S. side.

d. The U.S. Administration is aware of the importance of the issue of jurisdiction and Jerusalem.

There is no change in the U.S. stands on the resumption of the dialogue with the PLO and the economic siege on the Palestinian people.

III. The U.S. positions' effects on the peace process:

We said that the negotiations would not be as they were after the U.S. intervention at the end of the ninth round.

What are the bases of the U.S. intervention in the negotiations and the peace process? While trying to give a preliminary answer to this question, we can set the following bases:

1. There will be no change in the U.S. stand toward dialogue with the PLO, and the dialogue will not be resumed until after the beginning of official dialogue between the PLO and the Israeli Government.

2. The U.S. Administration will deal with the economic situation in the occupied Palestinian territories through aid to build an infrastructure in order to create new jobs as provided for in Rabin's plan.

3. There is a linkage between the Israeli Government's measures on the ground and the essence of the negotiations. This is an adoption of the Israeli position which is basically based on blackmail.

4. The U.S. Administration views the isolation of Jerusalem and the closure of the occupied territories from the angle of Israel's security. It will alleviate the economic and social effects without ignoring Israel's security needs. Again, this is an adoption of the Israeli position.

5. The U.S. stands were defined in a letter from President Clinton to Faysal al-Husayni. These stands will not change facts on the ground. What will change facts is engagement in negotiations.

6. The U.S. Administration will not intervene in accordance with its declared stands, but it will try to deal with the two parties' stands at the negotiating table.

7. The U.S. Administration will not deal with Israel or the negotiations through the international law or UN Security Council resolutions. This means that international legitimacy has nothing to do with the peace process.

8. The only term of reference of the peace process is the letter of invitation of 18 October 1991. The letter of assurances, President Bush's speech, or any other issues are not part of the terms of reference.

9. Negotiations will take place in the U.S. way, not in any other way. This is the only way to make the negotiations succeed. There is no way to make any achievement outside this negotiations framework, particularly concerning human rights or Israel's measures to impose a fait accompli through settlements and the annexation of Jerusalem.

10. Concentration must be made on the interim phase, and development of the final phase will depend on the results and facts of the interim phase.

11. The declared U.S. positions on Jerusalem and settlements will not affect the negotiations. This applies to Resolution 242. This is a very serious issue which means that the future of Jerusalem and the settlements and the

concept of withdrawal will be determined by the negotiations only and not in accordance with international legitimacy.

12. The full partner concept will be determined through the negotiations and the issues discussed by the parties to the talks, and not in accordance with the U.S. stands or international legitimacy.

13. The U.S. Administration will not exert any form of pressure on Israel. Adopting such policy means that the pressure will be exerted on the Palestinian and Arab sides.

Based on this, we can say that the Clinton administration's stand has already been decided in Israel's favor, and that the U.S. concept of the interim phase is also an adoption of the Israeli concept. This also applies to the final phase. Thus, President Clinton's administration has absolved itself of any assurances President Bush's administration had given to the Palestinian side in particular, and the Arab side in general.

IV. What should we expect from now on?

On the basis of the above, the following questions are posed: Where is the process going, and what should we expect?

From the premise of realities and without any illusions, we have the following:

1. President Clinton's administration has adopted the Israeli stands. There is a full U.S.-Israeli partnership in the peace process.

2. The Arab delegations will allow the U.S. Administration to get what it wants from the Arab parties. In practice, this means the suspension of negotiations on the Palestinian and Syrian tracks, while talks formally continue on all [other] tracks. With respect to the Jordanian and Lebanese tracks, the attention focuses on what takes place on the Syrian and Palestinian tracks.

3. Since all aspects of the letter of invitation are ambiguous, the peace process has become devoid of any terms of reference.

4. Differences between the U.S. Administration and the Palestinian side revolve around the following:

- The terms of reference.
- The methodology.
- The concept of the final stage.
- The interpretation of the letter of invitation.
- The concept of the full partner and the U.S. role.
- How to approach the Israeli Government's measures on the ground. This means that the disagreement comprises all aspects of the peace process.

5. We should expect a U.S. paper, a political document that is based to a large extent on only the interim self-government arrangements, that is the concept of the transitional period. The linkage between the two stages

will be formal, and Jerusalem on the level of voting. [sentence as published] Now that the U.S. Administration has spoken about the imposition of the methodology for negotiations, we must expect an attempt to impose the content.

6. If the Palestinian side rejects (this is expected and more than certain) the U.S. document, pressures will intensify to comprise all aspects.

From this premise, the time has really come to carry out a comprehensive review and to formulate plans to limit the damage. This should be done as soon as possible. Pursuing the method and the means adopted during the previous rounds is no longer useful. We can say that the peace process in its acknowledged form has ended. If the negotiations are to continue, the Palestinians should reformulate their strategy. If there is no possibility for the negotiations to continue, strategies should also be reformulated.

Nusaybah Leaves Negotiating Team To Attend Harvard

JN1307065693 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
13 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned from well-informed Palestinian sources that Dr. Sari Nusaybah, head of the political and technical committees in the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, has relinquished his duties in the negotiating team to join a one-year course at Harvard University in the United States.

Qaddumi Confers With PFLP's Habash in Damascus

JN1007131893 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] A PLO delegation comprising Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi and Fatah Central Committee members Hani al-Hasan and 'Abbas Zaki has held talks in Damascus with George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] to further Palestinian national unity.

The PLO delegation is scheduled to confer with representatives of other Palestinian groups in Damascus, including some that are outside the PLO.

PFLP Official on Factions' Unity, National Unity

JN1307123593 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
13 Jul 93 pp 1, 20

[By Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Excerpt] PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh has revealed that a three-way meeting is under way in Damascus among representatives from three Palestinian organizations: Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], and the

Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. The meeting is being held to prepare for a comprehensive national dialogue.

The Fatah delegation consists of 'Abbas Zaki, Colonel Nasr Yusuf, and Hani al-Hasan, who is its head. The PFLP delegation is made up by Abu-'Ali Mustafa, Abu-Ahmad Fu'ad, Jamil Majdalawi, and Mahir al-Tahir. We were unable to get the names of the DFLP delegation led by DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah.

Malluh told AL-DUSTUR that if the meeting ends with an agreement on all the issues raised in the Palestinian arena, it will open the door to national dialogue and to its success.

Malluh added: If the Palestinian side accepts the present form of the U.S. declaration of principles plan, all the forces and personalities who are opposed to the negotiations are invited to take steps to prevent this plan from being imposed as a policy on our people and as a basis for settling our national cause.

Malluh added: The PFLP's stand might not be confined only to withdrawal from the PLO Executive Committee and the other institutions but will go beyond that to the implementation of a more comprehensive policy. He said that the PFLP is currently studying stands for adoption and he does not want to anticipate events.

Malluh denied any political differences within the PFLP. He said that there is a solid front within the PFLP on the political situation, particularly toward the negotiations, as outlined in the statement of the central committee issued last May. Rumors that differences exist between the front in and outside the occupied territories are merely illusions.

On efforts under way to unite the PFLP and the DFLP Malluh said that a leaders meeting was held in Damascus last week to take the necessary steps to unite the two fronts. He said: We submitted a preliminary visualization of how to gradually upgrade relations to attain full unity. This is now under discussion. [passage omitted]

Editorial: End Boycott If G-7 Statement Fulfilled

TA1207190293 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
10 Jul 93 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "Ending the Boycott in Return for Full Rights"]

[Excerpts] The political communique issued by the G-7 summit, which ended yesterday in Tokyo, supported the

efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and called on Israel and the Arab states to adopt more confidence-building measures. The communique also affirmed the need of ending the Arab boycott of Israel, and called on Israel to respect its commitments regarding the occupied territories and human rights in those territories.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was one of the first to welcome this communique. He focused on the call by the G-7 to end the Arab boycott of Israel and considered it a turning point and an additional important step toward advancing the peace process in practice, but he ignored the rest of the communique which called on Israel to respect its commitments, give the Palestinian people their rights, and cease the practices of siege, starvation, demolition of houses, detentions, and deportations against them.

Yes, we are in favor of ending the Arab boycott of Israel if it abides by the G-7's communique. In 1991, the G-7 had supported an Arab proposal to end the boycott in return for freezing settlement activity in the occupied territories. The new summit's communique, however, did not address this issue bearing in mind that Israel had rejected this link. Since assuming power, Rabin has only slowed down construction in the occupied territories instead of freezing settlement activity. [passage omitted]

Some Arab countries have begun to back off from the boycott decisions in reaction to the Gulf War, but commitment to the boycott has been affirmed in Arab League resolutions, which constitute the core of Arab policy in various countries.

Regardless of Israel's hollering that this boycott is unfair, in fact this boycott's effect is more moral than practical.

The Arabs resorted to this policy because they were unable to resist Israel in any other way. The boycott is an economic weapon that the Arabs used against Israel when they failed to confront it militarily.

Naturally, everything has a price. The price of ending the boycott is Israel's agreement to make concessions on the Palestinian problem and achieve settlements with Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. Israel's neighboring countries will not end the boycott unless the dispute between them and Israel is terminated and all the parties gain their rights. Every party should expect the other party to ask a price for what it demands.

Algeria

Prime Minister Continues Tour of Southern Provinces

LD1307093093 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic
0600 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Belaid Abdessalam continues his visit to the deep south provinces. He is expected today in Tamanrasset—the third stop on the visit he began two days ago. The latest on his activity in Adrar can be summed up in a report by our correspondent Abdelmoumen Dakkar.

[Dakkar] Prime Minister Belaid Abdessalam concluded his visit to the Province of Adrar with a meeting which brought him together with the cadres, members of the elected councils, representatives of the groups movement, and citizens. The meeting provided an opportunity to the prime minister and the ministerial delegation accompanying him to record the preoccupations and concern of the citizens of Adrar Province—preoccupations which to some extent are similar to those voiced previously by the citizens of Tindouf Province to the prime minister.

Several issues were raised concerning the provision of basic consumer goods, building materials, transport, roads, rural lighting, strengthening rural and local building industry, finding work for the young, encouraging farmers especially those with small holdings, and solving the position of the citizens who are not registered with the national status services.

Raising such local issues did not prevent a number of speakers from expressing their concern over the general situation in the homeland and stressing the need to gather the dynamic national energies along with all well-wishers in the country to overcome the crisis.

At the end of the meeting the prime minister spoke and defined the framework of his visit to the deep south provinces including Adrar as part of an effort to learn about the preoccupations of the citizens, to underline the program of the government, and to emphasize the attention that should be paid to the southern provinces which are coping with special problems that need special attention. Hence he called for drawing up a special program for them to be included in the general annual program of every province. [passage omitted]

The prime minister stressed that the future prospects of the country are in the area of Touat, as this area has land and water and local manpower can be reinforced by national forces. The area can be turned into the best area in the country and thus can contribute to a large extent to solving the food problem. He said that considerable facilities will be provided to the investors in these areas including foreigners who have technology and scientific and technical expertise.

Belaid Abdessalam listened attentively to the worries of Adrar Province citizens but he was keen to put forward the preoccupations of the government on the question of restoring security, combating terrorism, and mobilizing the national forces. He also analyzed the nature of the difficulties which the country is facing economically and socially in light of the conditions and the advice given by international financial institutions.

The prime minister said there are some people abroad who advise us to make painful decisions if we are resolved to come out of the crisis, like firing workers. He added that we know that there must be sacrifices and repairing the things left over from the past, but the problem at hand is who is going to pay the price for this. He added that we can imagine the sharing out of these sacrifices fairly between all of us.

The prime minister said: I agree with Higher State Council Chairman Ali Kafi who said in his recent speech that if we want to get out of the crisis we ought not to safeguard private interests and decisions which have been made without considering the problems of the country.

These were the most important points raised during the meeting of the prime minister with the cadres and representatives of the elected local councils and the group movement in the province of Adrar. Addressing the cadres of Adrar Province yesterday, Belaid Abdessalam stressed the government's wish to make all efforts to ease the special difficulties that are faced by some southern provinces.

Further on New Defense Minister, Army Chief of Staff

LD1207134793 Rabat MAP in English 1301 GMT
12 July 93

[Text] Algiers, July 12 (MAP)—Algerian retired General Lamine Zeroual was nominated minister of defense in replacement of Gen. Khaled Nezzar who keeps his post as member of the ruling presidential college (High State Committee). The new defense minister left the army four years ago for 'deep divergences' with former President Chadli Benjedid. In 1989, he was commander of the infantry and then held for one year the post of ambassador to Romania.

Former Defense Minister Khaled Nezzar was the first to hold this post which was part of the president's prerogatives.

Another nomination in the Algerian Army concerns Gen. Mohamed Lamari, in charge of anti-terrorism combined special forces, to the job of chief of staff of the army.

Security Forces Kill Four 'Terrorists' in Blida*LD1307075593 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Jul 93*

[Text] It was learned from the command of the National Gendarmerie that gendarmes and special forces mounted a joint operation yesterday in which they killed four terrorists who were hiding at a farm at Si Ben Issa in the town of Mouzaya in the Blida Province. The same source said that the operation was carried out on information received from citizens. Hunting rifles, an automatic pistol, and a quantity of ammunition were recovered from the four terrorists whose identity has not yet been established.

Oran Special Court Sentences Three to Death*LD1307023893 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[All names as heard]

[Excerpts] The special judicial court of Oran passed sentences this evening against people involved in the attempted assassination of the Tlemcen public prosecutor. Here are more details from Oran:

[Unidentified correspondent] Mansour Abdelkader and Benfanian Mohamed were sentenced to death, as were three others persons who are still on the run. The special court also passed a 15-year prison sentence on two other persons and another 10-year sentence on Wahibi Boumediene. Five others were acquitted. The case dates back to the end of last year, when someone attempted to assassinate the Tlemcen public prosecutor outside his house one morning. [passage omitted]

The group that carried out this assassination attempt consists of 13 persons, who have been charged with the following: attempting to assassinate a man of justice, conspiring against the state's authority, and forming an armed terrorist group.

The defense attorney rejected the charges against his clients and requested acquittal and reduction of penalties based on the social circumstances of the accused.

Egypt**Libya's al-Qadhdhafi Telephones President Mubarak***NC1207211993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2054 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received a telephone call this evening from brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

This telephone call falls within the framework of continuing discussions between the two Arab leaders.

Contacts Resume Over Peace Process Differences*NC1207154093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said Egypt today resumed contacts with parties concerned with the Middle East crisis to bring their views closer and overcome obstacles to the peace process.

He added that several phone calls were made to the parties concerned today. He noted that several differences exist and that the ongoing contacts aim to overcome them.

Paper Praises Choice of Cairo for Multilateral Seminar*NC1307071693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM has said that if the objective of the bilateral talks is to establish peace and a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East cause, then the objective of the multilateral committees is to draw a picture of what the new Middle East will be like after peace prevails.

In its editorial for 13 July, the newspaper referred to the choice made on 11 July of Cairo as venue for the seminar on discussing implementation of arms agreements in accordance with the decision of the committee on arms limitation in the Middle East.

AL-AHRAM noted that the bilateral and multilateral talks have their source in the Madrid peace conference which convened in October 1991 under the cosponsorship of the United States and Russia.

The newspaper affirmed the importance of Egypt's role in initiating and establishing peace. It is a member of the committee on arms limitation. In addition, the committee chose Cairo as the venue for the seminar, which is just further evidence that Egypt is the land of peace and security.

Arab Lawyers Group Refuses To Defend 'Abd-al-Rahman*NC1307063493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0557 GMT 13 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jul (MENA)—Dr. Faruq Abu-'Isa, secretary general of the Arab Lawyers Federation, stressed that the Federation is not concerned with defending Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman as it did with al-Sayyid Nusayr, who was accused of killing Jewish Rabbi Meir Kahane.

In a statement he made this morning prior to his departure for the United States on a private visit, Dr. Abu-'Isa said the Federation is refraining from defending Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman and his aides since they are carrying out terrorist actions that claim the lives

of innocent people, damaging the reputation of Islam, and harming Muslims in general and Arabs in particular.

Lawyer Says Shaykh's Life Endangered by Return

NC1207132293 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 6 Jul 93 p 8

[Text] Muntasir al-Zayyat, one of the lawyers for Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman, said his client's life will be endangered if he is extradited to Egypt. He called on the United States to give Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman a chance to seek asylum elsewhere.

Al-Zayyat explained the shaykh's life will be in real danger if he comes to Cairo. His poor health and the torture he will be subjected to in Egyptian prisons will render unfit to stand trial before a military court.

Al-Zayyat stressed that European countries have given asylum to Egyptian Islamists. He said Britain granted asylum to Egyptian lawyer 'Adil 'Abd-al-Bari in June. He was given a jail term in the case of the assassination of President Anwar al-Sadat. He left Egypt in 1988 following his arrest under the emergency law, although he did serve his prison term.

Rules Out Extradition

PM0907110593 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 8 Jul 93 p 1

[Muhammad Salah-al-Din report: "Al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah Leader's Lawyer Tells AL-HAYAH: 'Abd-al-Rahman Will Seek Asylum In Britain'"]

[Text] Cairo—Muntasir al-Zayyat, Dr. 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman's lawyer, has denied the reports that 'Abd-al-Rahman intends to go to Iran if he is not extradited to Egypt or expelled from the United States. Al-Zayyat told AL-HAYAH that 'Abd-al-Rahman received an Iranian offer before the recent incidents but he turned it down. He pointed out that the al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah [Islamic Group] leader is also refusing to go to Sudan "out of concern for it and in order not to embarrass officials there."

He added that 'Abd-al-Rahman "will seek political asylum in Britain if his application for political asylum in the United States is turned down." Al-Zayyat ruled out the possibility of the United States' extraditing 'Abd-al-Rahman to Cairo. He said: "There is no extradition agreement or treaty between the two countries. Besides, U.S. judicial establishments are playing their role effectively and sternly." However, he believes "that an arrangement may have been made or was almost made recently between the Egyptian and U.S. Administrations, as is indicated by the timing of the warrant issued by the al-Fayyum Court for the arrest of 'Abd-al-Rahman following the announcement of his arrest by the U.S. police in New York." Al-Zayyat announced that he will go to New York within the next few days to have a look at the documents of the investigation currently being conducted with Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman. He believes that his client's health will cause him to suffer "a health

problem" if he is extradited to Egypt. He stressed that 'Abd-al-Rahman "will overcome the ordeal just as he did before."

Shaykh Said 'CIA Agent' Shaped in Khomeyni Mold

NC1207130993 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 5 Jul 93 p 16

[From the Mustafa Amin column: "Idea"]

[Text] Egyptians believe Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman is a CIA agent groomed to be Egypt's Khomeyni and to do in Egypt what Khomeyni did in Iran. When the ploy failed, the CIA accused him of falsification. Egyptians believe Shaykh 'Umar is a terrorist leader who instigated the assassination of former President Anwar al-Sadat and who runs the al-Jihad organization from abroad, inciting assassinations and the use of bombs in Egypt. The public is surprised that despite all these accusations, the U.S. police did not apprehend him and hand him over to Egypt. The Americans say none of these accusations has been proved and they are all rumors spread by the Zionists to harm ties between America and Egypt. They say falsification is the only proven accusation. When the U.S. authorities turned up this accusation, they apprehended him.

Shaykh 'Umar gained from the CIA's confusion over his entry visa to the United States. The U.S. authorities give a new story every day about the entry visa. First they said it was a computer error, then they said it was a mistake by the U.S. consul in Alexandria, and then they said it was a mistake at the U.S. Embassy in Sudan. It is sometimes said Shaykh 'Umar was in Afghanistan and played a role in the war between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, recruiting Muslim mujahidin for the war, and that America did not forget this favor and gave him a green card.

Egyptians are displeased with the U.S. stalling over handing over Shaykh 'Umar to Egypt, despite Egypt handing over to America one of the defendants in the World Trade Center bombing or, at least, not placing obstacles before him when he expressed his desire to leave for America to testify. The atmosphere grew more tense when some U.S. papers suddenly launched a campaign against Egypt, distorted Egypt's image, and published reports opposed to tourism to Egypt. All this made the people in Egypt believe this is a premeditated policy to distort Egypt's image.

Bomb Made of Fireworks Explodes at Sports Center

NC1307105293 Paris AFP in English 1022 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, July 13 (AFP)—A bomb made of fireworks exploded outside a sports centre here on Tuesday [13 July], causing a loud blast but no injuries, police said.

The "primitive" device was put together from fireworks used by children, police said. It went off outside a sports centre in al- Zamalik, a residential suburb.

AL-AHRAM Urges Reconsideration of Iraq Resolutions

NC1007210393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA)—AL-AHRAM asks the world community to find political means for solving its problems with Iraq.

In a comment to appear in Sunday's [11 July] issue, the paper says: It is high time that the host of resolutions shackling the sovereignty and threatening the territorial integrity of Arab Iraq be reconsidered.

The paper says that the U.S.-led West is accustomed to adopting hardline and exaggerated positions against Iraq while turning a blind eye to crimes and horrible practices in other parts of the world.

The paper considers Western threats and intensive propaganda against Iraq over its refusal to install cameras to monitor the activity of two military installations as preparation for a new military strike against the country.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Condemns U.S. Raid in Somalia

NC1307072293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2110 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (MENA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has commented that the new attack that U.S. aircraft waged on Somalia under the umbrella of the United Nations once again raises doubts about the credibility of the international organization and its deliberate application of double standards in various hotbeds of tension in the world.

In its editorial for 13 July, the newspaper said that ever since international forces started operating in Somalia under the U.S. command, and ever since Iraq was hit and numerous civilians fell victim to these operations in both countries, Arab and Islamic world opinion has been wondering about the meaning behind ignoring the daily massacres and acts of aggression against the people of Bosnia, Palestine, and Lebanon at a time when the international organization deliberately strikes Somalia and Iraq under any pretext.

The newspaper warned that the policy of double standards does not serve the cause of world peace and does not end extremism. On the contrary, it encourages more wars and loss of nations' rights to development. Concluding its editorial, AL-JUMHURIYAH asks: Will the new world order deliberately create tensions to maintain the interests of weapons production and trade instead of directing these resources toward the interests of nations?

Air Defense Chief Discusses New Radar, Weapons Systems

NC1007074493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0605 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA)—Air Defense Commander Staff Major General Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Abu-Talib has announced that the Egyptian Armed Forces have developed and brought into service the American Hawk air defense system.

Speaking to AL-AHRAM today, Maj. Gen. Abu-Talib said the Air Defense Forces are being equipped with the T.B.S-360, an Egyptian dual-range radar system, and that work is under way to complete the automatic guidance and control system that would enable the forces to monitor several hostile air targets simultaneously and select the best method to face them with missiles and combat aircraft.

The commander said the Egyptian engineers and military have developed the Italian Sky Guard air defense system Amun after modifications. He said the Egyptians are supplying Kuwait with units following renovation and are training the Kuwaiti cadres in the system's technical and tactical aspects. The training involves exercises with the missiles and anti-aircraft artillery included in the system, he said.

Maj. Gen. Abu-Talib said this year will witness the opening of the biggest world center for an air defense weapons' firing range. The computer-equipped center will record and analyze all firing activity to determine the accuracy of the air defense weapons, he explained.

Discussing Stealth bombers, Maj. Gen. Abu-Talib explained that no aircraft is invisible when radars use more than one method of detection. He said work is under way to develop the sensing efficiency so that these aircraft can be detected and monitored soon.

Libya

Yeltsin Responds to 'Urgent' al-Qadhdhafi Message

LD1207210393 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Aleksey Podtserov, ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Great Jamahiriyyah.

The ambassador delivered a written message to the brother leader of the revolution from Russian President Boris Yeltsin in reply to the urgent message which the brother leader of the revolution had charged him with carrying to President Yeltsin.

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses Foreign, Domestic Issues

*LD1207192093 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1515 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 12 Jul (JANA)—The London-based newspaper AL-'ARAB has published a comprehensive interview with the brother leader of the revolution in which he talked about several internal and foreign issues. Here is the text of the interview:

[AL-'ARAB]: The Jamahiriya is witnessing these days studies and steps toward privatization and the transformation of the role of the state from that of financier to that of guarantor. In what sectors will the privatization plan be applied and will they include education and health?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The answer naturally [word indistinct] is what is called people's socialism, which is being implemented for the first time in the world. It is not state capitalism which existed in the former Soviet Union or East Europe, and is not the exploitative private capitalism of the West. This is people's socialism which applies to all sectors of services and production, including health and education.

The teacher who wants to teach is free, and if a group of teachers want to set up a people's partnership so that they get students in exchange for money, they are free to do so. It is not permitted, however, for anyone to take up a school and teachers and make them slaves and exploit them in teaching and be the employer. This is the essential difference between people's socialism and the private sector and private property in the world, which is exploitative. [passage omitted]

[AL-'ARAB]: You have in the past months held extensive meetings with economic, finance, oil, and water experts to draw up a strategy for the Libyan Jamahiriya for the coming century. What is this strategy?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We want to show that there were great fallacies. People were giving birth and building and the population was increasing in a spot like this. It became clear that there is a misconception that the country has no future. Why then are people giving birth and multiplying in it, building roads, cities and buildings? This is a danger knell tolling for Libya and for every country which has no water or future potentials. Now there is an idea to redistribute the population [word indistinct] map. The Americans themselves formed a committee from the American intelligence service to study the future of the world in the next 100 years. What form would the world have? It showed what situation the world will be in from the present day to 100 years later. There will be desertification in some areas and there will be [words indistinct] covering many areas in America and Europe and it is possible that in coastal areas the water will rise six meters, causing floods in addition to the heat trapped as a result of the hole in the ozone layer. Accordingly, the world will not be, during the next 100 years, what it is now in terms of population existence.

America will not be a suitable place in the future because part of it will suffer desertification and another part will be covered with ice. [passage omitted]

It is as though they are saying: Think of occupying the Arab world and hide from them the studies we have carried out with experts which warn of the danger of the future. Why is the population increasing? Why are we building roads and airports in a country which will not have one drop of water in less than 20 years and we will be forced to get out and leave it?

The last attempt to save life in this region is the great man-made river. [passage omitted]

[AL-'ARAB] Will you allow foreign capital to participate in the projects which will be implemented in the Jamahiriya before or during the next century for which you have now started planning, and will there be legislation to guarantee the return of their capital and profits?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Yes, naturally investments of foreign capital are allowed without any reservation, and there will be legislation to guarantee that. Libya will be a tourism center and needs billions of investment in tourism, and this will be put forward to international companies. Tourism requires an investment of billions and what is required is the participation of a large number of foreign companies.

The tourism potential of Libya is extensive: historic cities, a 2,000 km-long coast, an excellent climate, and beautiful beaches. Libya will be the biggest tourism country in Africa and the Mediterranean, and this is good news for the international and foreign companies which specialize in tourism and which want to participate and make profits as a result of their participation in the largest tourism projects which will be implemented in the Jamahiriya. The competent parties will train the human cadres in order to participate in making the tourism industry successful.

[AL-'ARAB] Will foreigners be allowed to invest in projects other than tourism?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Yes, and in all things foreign capital wants to participate in. In Libya mineral resources abound in the deserts and mountains, and foreign companies will have the opportunity to invest in them and in the industrial field [words indistinct].

[AL-'ARAB] During the last General People's Congress, you addressed an invitation you called for the drawing of a new people's constitution in the light of the unique Jamahiriya experience. On what would you base this proposed constitution?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [passage omitted] When you set human rights according to your customs and nature, those in the West do not consider them human rights; rather, they condemn you. We have to prove to them that eventually they are wrong, because the constitution, which is the basic law of society and the one which consolidates and regulates society's traditions, customs, and beliefs, and

benefits from these things in its rights and obligations, because the rights and obligations are in accordance with the religious belief, traditions and beliefs, anything coming from abroad does not count constitutionally. [sentence as received]

[AL-ARAB] Then you will not imitate the West?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No, because it will not be of any use, because every society has its own traditions, customs and religions. Moreover, the West is Christian and we are Muslims and it is not possible to (have) the same rights and obligations. [passage omitted]

[AL-ARAB] Despite the Jamahiriya's feeling of the injustice of sanction resolutions issued against it, it has accepted Resolution 731 and announced its readiness to cooperate with the judicial investigations and the United Nations over what is known as the Lockerbie case. How do you see a solution to this issue, which the West has exploited to get at the Jamahiriya and ruin its reputation?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] we cannot violate human rights, and Libya will be condemned by the human rights organizations. They will say it arrests people by force and throws them to another country which is hostile toward it. This cannot happen and even the human rights organizations do not permit us to do so. Accordingly, Libya cannot arrest a citizen against his will and force him to go to face trial in another country. But if he wants to do that by his free will, he can do so. The sanctions against Libya appear meaningless and intensifying them will not change anything. This is Libya's position. They must not think that escalation against Libya will change its position. Libya cannot do that. Let them escalate, even if it reaches war. Whenever we escalate, the further away from the battle we become. All that concerns us is to try the defendants, to find out who did Lockerbie. By escalation, we get further away from the trial, and through dialogue we can agree on the trial.

I want to say that on the same day that the Pan Am plane crashed on Lockerbie in December, on that same day a Libyan plane bearing the same number, 103, and carrying 157 passengers crashed close to Tripoli airport. Our first suspicions were that it was shot from the sea by a missile, or from Europe by a missile, or from America by a missile, because the accident occurred at the same time and the flight had the same number. We considered it an out-of-place act of revenge, because Iraq is accused of attempting to kill Bush and investigations are still going on. People [words indistinct] in court and the court has not issued a sentence. They took revenge before a sentence was passed.

In the event of finding them innocent, what is the fate of the people who were killed in Baghdad? The new thing these days is that whenever they kill someone, they apologize. I direct an appeal to those who caused the Pan Am plane crash, if they are still alive and still living on earth, I direct this advice to them to come out and

apologize and no one will object. There they are, they kill innocent people, they apologize, and the problem is over.

This disaster which happened to Libya equals that of Lockerbie and it is not possible to look into one of them without looking into the other. The author of Lockerbie is unknown, however, the author of this [Libyan disaster] is known, and it is the Security Council and behind it America, Britain, and France. To be more precise, they are the ones who downed the Libyan plane which was carrying 157 passengers, because they wrote in the resolution that it was prohibited to supply spare parts and it was prohibited for any state to send any expert or technician to check the Libyan aircraft—including the Boeing Company—to ascertain whether it was airworthy. This is what was written in the resolution and in fact no technician could check that plane; it was deprived of spare parts, in accordance with the resolution, and took off with those innocent people and crashed. Who, then, killed the 157 passengers?

It was the UN Security Council and this is very important. This is important and nobody talks about it. There is no reason to be polite about it, in fact and logically the one that caused the death of the 157 was the Security Council, which prohibited maintenance and spare parts. It prohibited experts, and still more dangerous, the Council said: It is not permitted to send any expert from any state to go to Libya to check whether the planes are airworthy or not. In fact, they refused to come, and the plane which crashed was not checked and lacked spare parts, and we were compelled to use it in our internal routes, and it crashed with those people. Another plane might crash, and even if we wanted to apply a tooth for a tooth and an eye for an eye—and despite the fact that Libya is innocent and Libya has not been proven guilty and even if Libya was tried and proven guilty, this has not taken place—and if justice is done, they are considered to have taken revenge on those Libyans who died. What do we say about them? Did they not have families? Have they got no rights? Are they not human beings? Are the ones on the Pan Am human beings and those [on the Libyan flight] sheep? Do they consider us as sheep and themselves as human beings?

Reagan and Thatcher are requested to appear before the court in Libya because they killed children and women and other Libyan citizens in 1986. Can they prove that Libya has committed any terrorist act?

We challenge them to prove any terrorist act committed by Libya. Why did they embark on raiding Libya in 1986? They said that it was on the pretext of the Berlin night club. Afterwards it was established that Libya was innocent of the Berlin night club. Therefore, Thatcher and Reagan are required to appear before the court in Libya, because they are killers and criminals.

[AL-ARAB] We have followed with interest the interview you had with the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the former U.S. presidential candidate. It was a positive interview and it made a great impression on Western

public opinion [words indistinct]. Libya is not a terrorist state, neither is it convulsive. It showed readiness for the trial. It also expressed readiness to restore relations with America and Britain. Truly it was a brilliant interview. What is your comment on the interview?

[AL-Qadhdhafi] Regrettably, several paragraphs of our conversation were dropped, and we do not know who is responsible for that.

[AL-'ARAB] Would Your Excellency repeat to AL-'ARAB the important paragraphs that were dropped from the interview?

[AL-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] a message to the families of the Lockerbie victims. They said, what would you like to say to them? I said: The issue now has become a political one. What would you, the families of the victims, gain when it becomes a political issue, i.e. a conflict between states? It became a conflict between Libya and America. What would you gain? This would separate you from the real culprit who killed your relatives. [passage indistinct]

Another point omitted from the interview concerned the Islamists. They lied somewhat in the seminar held after showing the interview. They said that al-Qadhdhafi said: These are rabid dogs. I did not say such things, but they attributed them to me. How many times did they claim that al-Qadhdhafi said: rabid dogs, rabid dogs. I would like to explain the paragraphs they dropped.

I said that the Islamic groups are divided into two sections. There is a fundamentalist current, which we lead. I am the leader of the Islamic Popular Pan-Arab Command which contains all the fundamentalist Islamic movements—the parties in Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Afghanistan, and the Arab countries. All these rational movements are ready to participate in elections, peaceful action, and give and take with the political parties. This is a fundamentalist rational current and is really looking for the origins. We, the al-Fatih revolution, are the revolution of origins, and therefore we are leading this current. Naturally they dropped that part.

As for the other current, the terrorist current, which is an apostate, in my opinion it was formed by the foreign intelligence services in the Asian countries, then it now moved and infiltrated the Arab countries. Examples are organizations such as al-Takfir wa al-Hijrah, which has committed the majority of actions; and another one called al-Tabligh. These are alien movements. They are neither Arab nor from the Arab countries. They came from Asia and were created by Western intelligence. [passage omitted]

After the end of the CNN interview, the network organized an interview with a group which included a woman whose daughter died in the Lockerbie crash and who was shouting "My daughter has died".

I asked to intervene in the dialogue, but they did not agree.

My daughter has also died. This woman was upset because her daughter died, could al-Qadhdhafi not also be upset because his daughter died and was deliberately murdered by the Americans? Why did I not call for striking the Americans and putting those who killed her on trial? I am sympathetic to her because her daughter died, but I am in the same boat.

[AL-'ARAB] It is said that the Libyan Jamahiriya will mediate between the Serbs and Muslims in Bosnia and a meeting will be held in Tripoli.

[AL-Qadhdhafi] We have appointed Dr 'Ali al-Turayki, who was our representative to the United Nations, to contact all the fighting sides in Yugoslavia. However, my advice to our Muslim brothers is that there is no future for them except in Yugoslavia. They are Yugoslavs first and foremost, regardless of their religion. The interest of all Yugoslavs is in Yugoslavia. [passage omitted including indistinct passages]

Morocco

Envoy: Referendum Will Renew Allegiance to Hassan

LD1307133393 Rabat MAP in English 1311 GMT
13 Jul 93

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Rabat, July 13 (MAP)—In case a referendum is held in the Sahara, it will be but a renewal of allegiance to King Hassan II, for the major part of the Sahrawi population live there and those living in Tindouf is ready to get rid of the Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio De Oro], Moroccan roving ambassador Brahim Hakim told Mauritanian 'AL BAYANE' weekly. He added the Polisario wants to prevent the majority of Saharan tribes from partaking in the referendum through forcing a census list compiled by Spain terming the move as 'contrary to the UN mission meant to avail the populations with participating in the referendum.

He underscored the contradiction in the Polisario stance concerning the list, for the latter was the first to rule out resorting to the Spanish census list of 1975 arguing it did not reflect the real number of the inhabitants of the provinces. Hakim stressed that the fact that one is not registered on a list set by colonial powers does not mean he is not entitled to vote in the poll which concerns all the Sahrawis. He said that by this stance the Polisario means to prevent the UNO fulfill its mission adding that to end the problem it suffices to implement the UN peace plan.

The Moroccan official said that his return to Morocco was not made by chance, but was the result of an ever-deteriorating crisis especially that Polisario leaders would not allow more freedom to the sequestered populations in the Lahmada camps.

The crisis triggered the 'resignation of ten of the Polisario leadership, whom I was part of, and a crack-down on the populations that backed us', he said adding that his return 'means the refusal to assent this kind of practices and is the decision of a political man who followed a path for a time and got aware that the situation he fought for was no longer the same prompting change'.

He ended saying that a 20 year experience taught him that the region and the continent will not profit by a multitude of states which represent nothing. 'I think a state in the Sahara can by no means be viable', he explained.

USFP Labor Leader El Amaoui Released From Prison

*LD1307111993 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0930 GMT
13 Jul 93*

[Text] Rabat, 13 Jul (MAP)—A leadership source in the Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP] has confirmed that Noubir El Amaoui, secretary general of the Democratic Labor Confederation, was released yesterday morning, Monday, from a prison in the town of Sale after spending 15 months there. The source informed AL-SHARQ [not further identified] that El Amaoui, who is a member of the Socialist Union political bureau, was released by a royal pardon coinciding with the Youth Day celebrations.

El Amaoui was sentenced May last year to two years imprisonment for libelling the former government, which was headed by Azzedine Laraki, in statements he gave to the Spanish newspaper, EL PAIS. Last February the appeal court in Rabat endorsed the preliminary sentence.

Driss Genimi, in charge of the General Union of Moroccan Workers in Sidi Slimane town, was also released. He had been sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Sudan

Foreign Minister Seeks Better Ties With Egypt

*PM1307104693 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
11 Jul 93 p6*

[Unattributed report on interview with Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih in Doha; date not given]

[Text] Doha, AL-HAYAH—Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih has emphasized that his country wants better relations with Egypt than before. He attacked the United Nations which, in his view, has hampered every progress in the handling of the problem of southern Sudan and "lost its way in Somalia" where it distributes food on the one hand and kills civilians on the other.

In an interview with AL-HAYAH in Doha, he said that his visit to Qatar was "a good start in the interest of stronger relations with the Gulf states. During the visit we managed to build on the existing good relations in various fields and agreed to develop these relations in other fields" through meetings [by Qataris] with Sudanese economists and businessmen.

He said that his next visit to the region would be announced in time and that he has received an invitation from the Omani foreign minister to visit Muscat.

On Egyptian-Sudanese relations, Abu-Salih said that his country had objected to the Egyptian forces' entry and deployment in the Hala'ib area which recently "caused some tension but Sudan withdrew the issue from the agenda of the latest African summit because of the special nature of the links between the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples. We do not want any military or political confrontation with Egypt."

He added "we are currently working towards better relations with Egypt than we have had in the past. That will be reflected at my meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to find a final solution to this problem" in mid-July.

On the problem of southern Sudan, Abu-Salih said that the direct meeting with the brothers in the south succeeded in producing many points of understanding "but foreign interference prevented the success of the negotiations. Those who talk about human rights should have supported peace and the right to live safely and enjoy stability in one's own country."

He said that Sudan is currently in the process of "eliminating the divisions created by the Sudanese parties. We are following a course decided by public opinion with a program emanating from Islamic teachings." He added that the call for the reconciliation of the partisan masses "is still valid and will bear fruit in the near future. We differentiate between the transitional phase and the final phase."

Abu-Salih also spoke about the economic situation in the country, saying that "the current rate of economic growth in Sudan is the highest its been in years. There is an increase in the production of all kinds of cereals leading to a surplus, but the problem is the lack of foreign aid, free currency, and contributions from expatriates in support of their country."

Asked about the terrorism charge made against Sudan, the Sudanese foreign minister said: "We condemn and reject terrorism. Islam has nothing to do with terrorism. What we are trying to do is follow the teachings of Islam. As regards the claims about unusual links between us and certain Islamic or Arab states, we say that Sudan has a specific strategy and is fully independent and we are interested in good relations with all the Arab and Islamic states."

Abu-Salih also said: "We have not attacked the United Nations because we are UN members, but we object to the superpowers' hegemony over the United Nations which these powers are manipulating in any way they like. What occurred in Somalia recently proves that the United Nations has lost its way and is self-contradictory. It distributes food to the needy and at the same time kills civilians... but we have to abide by the Addis Ababa resolutions on settlement of the internal problems of the African states."

Abu-Salih noted that the United Nations "has often interfered in Sudan's affairs using the problem in the south as a pretext. We had a dialogue with the officials but they always obstruct every step forward."

On the resolution passed by the African summit conference held recently in Cairo on the creation of an African mechanism for the settlement of regional disputes, the Sudanese foreign minister said that Sudan "is in favor of such a mechanism and in favor of Africa solving its own problems without foreign interference." He added that his government stresses that such a mechanism should not be financed by non-African sources.

Minister Denies Bigger Role for al-Turabi Line
PM1307104093 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jul 93 p 4

[Interview with Information Minister Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman by Sawsan Abu-Husayn in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Abu-Husayn] What stage has been reached in the Egyptian-Sudanese contacts aimed at improving relations?

[Sulayman] Contacts are still continuing in order to fix a date for the meeting of the two countries' foreign ministers.

[Abu-Husayn] Political experts wonder: Will Sudan be sincere in its intentions in relation to improving relations with Egypt, or is it another maneuver?

[Sulayman] Regrettably, we read from time to time foreign press reports casting doubt on Sudan's credibility regarding the relationship with Egypt. But we stress to everyone that the relationship will reach the level of a distinct friendship, especially as the two countries' presidents announced this in the Cairo meeting. So why suspect the intentions and misinterpret feelings and sentiments? I also stress that Sudan harbors no bad intentions with regard to its Arab relations, including those with Egypt.

[Abu-Husayn] Maybe the bad intentions of others are attributable to Sudan's adherence to [National Islamic Front leader] al-Turabi's policy which always leads you to confrontations in foreign policy with neighboring states and others.

[Sulayman] That is absolutely unacceptable. We know that dealings and cooperation should be conducted on the basis of specific incidents. Besides, Sudan is familiar with Islam and has been implementing the Islamic shari'ah for some time, that is within the boundaries of the magnanimous Islamic shari'ah and without any exaggeration or extremism. So where is Al-Turabi's role here? And does it mean, when an Islamic system is mentioned, that we are applying Al-Turabi's system? That is erroneous, and it must be made clear that al-Turabi has nothing to do with the issue of applying the Islamic shari'ah. It is a gift to us from Almighty God.

[Abu-Husayn] It has been reported that there will soon be coordination between Egypt and Sudan in the field of combating terrorism. What truth is there in this?

[Sulayman] We are willing to cooperate with all world states in the field of combating terrorism.

[Abu-Husayn] How can Sudan cooperate in combating terrorism when it is accused of involvement in it and of supporting it?

[Sulayman] First of all, that accusation against Sudan has not been proved in practice. Nor have we received any evidence to prove our involvement in or support of terrorism. We announce our willingness to receive all media and officials to ascertain Sudan's innocence. We will open all the camps said to have contained terrorists to see at first hand what is inside them.

[Abu-Husayn] What about your relationship with 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and the claim that Khartoum provided him with many facilities in agreement with Iran?

[Sulayman] That is untrue. The story of 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman is known. He obtained an entry visa to Washington from the U.S. Embassy in Sudan, that is all. As far as 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman is concerned, Khartoum was merely a "transit" stage in preparing to travel to Washington. [passage omitted]

[Abu-Husayn] It is being reported that the new Sudanese changes are aimed at giving al-Turabi's front a bigger role.

[Sulayman] That is untrue. We reemphasize that the aim of the changes taking place is transition from military to civilian rule!

Kuwait**Gen. Powell Visits for Talks With Officials****Received by Amir**

LD1207111493 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] At 0930 this morning his highness the amir received His Excellency General Colin Powell, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff of the U.S. Armed Forces and his accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

This morning Information Minister Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah met with General Powell. The meeting held at Gen. Powell's place of residence dealt with the development of the situation in the Gulf region in addition to the consolidation of cooperation relations between Kuwait and the United States.

Meeting With Foreign Minister

LD1207185093 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the first deputy prime minister and foreign minister, says that the responsibility for the response to the latest provocations by the Iraqi regime falls upon the United Nations. That came in statements to journalists by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir after a meeting with the chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff, General Colin Powell, who is currently visiting the country.

The first deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the latest refusal of the Iraqi regime to allow the UN inspectors to set up cameras to monitor two sites for missile-testing represented a challenge to the international organization.

He said his meeting with Gen. Colin Powell was restricted to friendly talk. He praised the role of the United States in the war to liberate Kuwait.

Saudi Arabia**Government Sends Relief Aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina**

LD1007155793 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1435 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 10 Jul (SPA)—Within the framework of the efforts of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, to send relief aid to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina to help them surmount their plight and overcome the serious economic situation brought about by the savage Serbian war, a Saudi ship with relief aid left Jeddah's Islamic harbor the day before yesterday for Ploce harbor in Croatia, the first consignment of a gift from the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques, may God support him, to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Receives UAE Supreme Council Member

LD1207130093 Riyadh SPA in English 1242 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Jeddah, July 12, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz received here last night Hamid Bin-Rashid al-Nu'aymi, member of the Supreme Council in the United Arab Emirates and ruler of Ajman, and the accompanying delegation.

The monarch also received here last night a group of citizens who came to greet him. The audience was attended by a number of princes.

Two New Ministers Take Oath of Office

LD1207193193 Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Jeddah, July 11 [date as received] SPA—Two new ministers took oath of office before Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz at the cabinet's General Secretariat in Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah on Monday [12 July].

They are Dr. Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Turki, the minister of Islamic affairs, endowments, call and guidance and Dr. Mahmud Bin-Muhammad al-Safar, the minister of pilgrimage. The swearing-in ceremony was also attended by Muhammad al-Nowazir, the chief of the Royal Court, Mohammed al-Sheikh, the chief of the royal protocol, 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Salim, the secretary general of the Council of Ministers and General Abdullah al-Namlah, the commander of the Royal Guard.

Further on UN Inspection Team's Visit to Test Sites

Military Leader Explains 'Position'

JN1207134493 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1156 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Washington, 12 Jul (INA)—Lieutenant General 'Amir Muhammad Rashid, director of the Military Industrialization Organization, has explained Iraq's position on not allowing a UN inspection team to seal two test sites for missiles which Iraq is allowed to produce.

In an interview with the U.S. news network CNN yesterday, Rashid said the first site tests missiles that use liquid fuel, while the other tests those using solid fuel. He said the site in which solid fuel is used was set up last year with the approval of the UN Special Commission and that the inspection teams have visited it and still visit it on regular basis.

Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: There is no plan to use that site, which was set up with the approval of the Special Commission, in any prohibited activity.

Rashid added: The other facility, al-Rafah, which tests liquid fuel for short-range missiles only, was also set up with the approval of the Special Commission one and a half years ago. Therefore, we were surprised by the Special Commission's request to install a special future monitoring system over these two sites, and by its suspicions that there is prohibited activity under way. The Commission knows well that there is no prohibited activity under way and that the sites were set up with its approval. They were visited and inspected regularly, and they are always open for the inspection teams, which have a full knowledge of the activities inside.

Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid added: When they asked to place cameras there, we asked ourselves: Why do they wish to implement a future monitoring system that is still under study and is part of Resolution 705? It is unwise for the Special Commission to try to raise this issue before holding technical talks in New York or political discussions in Baghdad.

Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid added: We said, please, we are not against installing cameras in these two sites, or any other site that requires such cameras, but why do we not postpone this issue until we discuss things and arrive at the ways and means to apply the constant future monitoring.

He added: From our point of view, this was only a tactic, probably influenced by certain quarters, to influence the Special Commission's decision and to try to prejudice the problem. This may also be an attempt to obstruct the technical and political contacts we have agreed to hold, and which are slated to take place in New York.

Asked by CNN if the sealing of the two sites by the inspection team may not be considered a means to

postpone the cameras issue, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: We objected to the camera installation at the current stage. This objection is not permanent but temporary—until we finish the technical talks.

Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid added that the inspection teams brought up the idea of sealing, which is not a new one. Last year, they placed seals on banned equipment used or meant to be used in the mass destruction weapons program. Now, if we allow them to place seals on equipment that has never been used, as I have explained to you, equipment that has nothing to do with the banned weapons and was not intended to be used, we will pave the way for them to make future demands to seal off part of our unbanned military industry and even civilian industries.

He said: As I have explained to you, one of the two sites is new and the other was permitted and was used for testing short-range missile engines. Our approval of this measure would soon constitute a serious precedent. It would create a problem and lead to the sealing off of all our industries. We said: Well, why do you want to put seals on these equipment? We have dismantled and moved them to another location so you can be sure we will not use them.

Asked by CNN about the reasons for dismantling this equipment, he said: This took place several weeks ago because of the political situation and the possibility of military aggression. In fact, it occurred when they attacked a government building in Baghdad. Several days before that aggression, we had the impression that a military aggression would take place. Of course, our industry is always a target for our enemies and the allied forces. Therefore, we said it was better to transfer the equipment from a number of warehouses and factories, including these two sites.

He added: We dismantled the equipment and moved them to another location. Therefore, there is nothing for them to monitor. We told them about the problem. In fact, the situation does not call for any monitoring. Their helicopters flew over the two sites and took photographs of them four or five days ago and they know very well that these sites were completely empty.

Asked by CNN about what happened with Mark Silver and the members of his team at the site yesterday, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: We asked Mr. Silver: What is your aim? Do you want to make sure that there is no banned activity, as Ekeus, head of the Special Commission, wants, or are you seeking a pretext for military aggression? What is your aim? He denied this, and said: We are not using our mission as a pretext. We said: Well, if you want to make sure that there is no banned activity, we can say that there is no equipment or activity of this type, that the equipment is at another location, and that we can take you to see for yourself. If that site is close to the original one, we can move the equipment any place in northern or southern Iraq, to any place you can reach easily and see the equipment. You

will be happy to learn that the Iraqis are unable to return the equipment to its original site.

He added: I have also told you that as soon as the crisis and aggression end, we will return them to their original site, but we will never allow the sealing of the equipment, as such a sealing will conflict with the foundation and measures the Special Commission adopted last year.

Answering a question about whether the equipment will be used at another site, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: No, this is impossible because the equipment is designed for the original site. The UN Special Commission is aware of this, and we do not have any differences concerning this issue.

He also said: We told Mark Silver yesterday to convey to Ekeus Iraq's proposal to ease the tension resulting from this problem. We said: If you are really interested in verifying this, we are ready to find a solution. However, if you have come just as a ploy to give our enemies a pretext to launch an act of military aggression that is another issue. Why do you not inform Ekeus about this so you can learn his response?

Rashid added: Last night, he informed us that he wanted to inspect the site. We told him that we welcome this as this falls within the framework of Resolution 687. We told him that he could inspect the site and even go to see the equipment in the places to which they were moved to make sure that everything is alright. We told him that he could do this on a regular basis. However, when he went to the site he took a rope to close off the site and seal it. We told him that this is unfair and is not allowed. We told him: We gave you a solution. We asked him to search for any other solution to make sure that no prohibited activities are going on. We asked him: Why did you do this?

Asked if the United Nations had earlier explained that it wanted to seal the equipment, Lt. Gen. Rashid said: Yes, it noted this before the visit. However, when we talked with the team, the talks were quiet and dealt with detailed and technical issues. There was an understanding with them. Our problem with the Special Commission is represented by the fact that some quarters do not want us to run our relations with the commission and implement the Security Council resolutions in a technical, purposeful, and objective way far away from political intentions.

Rashid added: If we and the commission are left alone there will be no problems. However, when there is interference and influence on the work of the Commission, as you see, the technical problem becomes a political problem. As we saw yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Warren Christopher was dictating what Mr. Ekeus should do. Christopher said: Mr. Ekeus will ask the Iraqis to use sealing wax, and if the Iraqis reject this, he will ask them to destroy them. If this is not done military action will be taken.

Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid asked: Why does Christopher dictate instructions and orders to Ekeus? And, if Ekeus, chairman of the UN Special Commission, has a special authorization from the Security Council, why does Christopher influence the work of the Special Commission? Why is this issue not left for the Iraqi side and the Special Commission? Why are they not left to work with sincerity and understanding as they have done over the past two years?

Asked if the Iraqis are concerned that the West would take action against Iraq if the sealing wax is not put in place, Rashid said: Yes, of course, because our factories could be destroyed and human losses could result from such action. Our objective has always been to establish normal relations between Iraq and the United States. Therefore, any military action will make normalization more difficult.

He added: We, as a people who respect themselves and who are objective, want to implement Resolution 687 in letter and spirit. However, problems are always placed before us to create difficulties.

He said: The Iraqi people have suffered a lot from the injustice resulting from the implementation of Resolution 687. The majority of the people do not consider it a cease-fire resolution but rather a continuation of firing at the Iraqi people under different pretexts and for another objective.

Answering a CNN question on the possibility of Iraq carrying out a retaliatory action in reply to the threat of using force, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: When our dignity and sovereignty are endangered, we have to accept the possibility of carrying out a military action, because we have no choice. They always leave us no choice and always place us at such an impasse. We wonder: Why does the UN Special Commission insist on creating a problem? Why do they not say let us hold sincere discussions with the Iraqi side to reach a solution? Why do they want to make prejudgments? In the beginning, they wanted to install cameras to make prejudgments, and now they want seals to be used as a pretext. Therefore, they would seal a factory each time using the pretext of the possibility of the existence of banned activities. Mr. Ekeus always says he has no political objectives and only wants to implement Resolution 687 in letter and spirit. However, Resolution 687 contains nothing about future monitoring.

Answering another CNN question about whether the United Nations is the side responsible for implementing its resolutions and not Iraq, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: Yes, it is the United Nations—but through consultations with Iraq—not the United States. He added: The majority of the Iraqi people wonder about the credibility of the United Nations, and about whether the actions we are facing are really UN actions or U.S. actions? The new U.S. Administration did not even give us a chance to normalize relations with the United States.

In reply to a CNN question about the inspection team's statement that it is implementing UN policies, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid said: This is the new world disorder, not the new world order. They are trying to carry out military aggression. The policies of some influential parties at the UN Security Council have nothing to do with the UN Charter whatsoever. Resolution 687 says that Iraq must not carry out any banned activities.

Regarding the Iraqi security measures taken around these two sites and the possibility of protecting them from any possible military action, Rashid said: We are taking all the necessary measures to protect our people, land, sky, and installations. We had done so in the past, and we are always ready to protect ourselves like any respectable people.

Official Describes 'Theatrical' Behavior

JN1307091193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0652 GMT
13 Jul 93

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jul (INA)—An Iraqi official has asserted that Iraq did not reject the principle of installing cameras at the al-Rafah and al-Yawm al-'Azim sites, but rather requested postponing this matter until the conclusion of a comprehensive dialogue with the Special Commission on compliance with Resolution 687, which is related to the embargo imposed on the Iraqi people.

In an interview on Iraqi television, carried within "The World Today" program last night, Husam Muhammad Amin, head of the Iraqi side which receives the UN inspection teams, said inspection team no. 57, led by Nikita Smidovich, a Russian, which visited Iraq in early June, surprised us by requesting the installation of cameras at the two sites. This procedure is part of Resolution 715, which concerns future monitoring. In this case, both the Special Commission entrusted with eliminating the weapons of mass destruction and the UN Security Council should fulfill their commitments with regard to lifting the embargo imposed on Iraq, Amin said.

The Iraqi official added: The team's head insisted on this issue, which was discussed with the head of the Iraqi technical team and at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. We submitted a practical proposal to the UN team, namely not to carry out prohibited activities at these two sites. We also proposed that the inspection teams visit the two sites at anytime, even on surprise visits. However, this proposal was also rejected. This issue developed further after it was leaked to the Western and hostile news media. The cameras' issue was depicted as a political rather than a technical issue in order to achieve malicious and suspect political objectives, he said.

Amin explained that the inspection team then left Baghdad as the media campaign escalated against Iraq, characterized by threats to strike at certain installations and launch a treacherous aggression against our industrial installations. This prompted us to evacuate and

dismantle some equipment and machines at the installations and sites which we expect will be targeted by aggression. The al-Rafah and al-Yawm al-'Azim sites were included in these measures, he added.

The Iraqi official said that Rolf Ekeus, head of the Special Commission, announced in New York that he intended to dispatch a new inspection team in order to seal some equipment. The team arrived and a meeting was held with it on the first day of its arrival. The team was requested to explain the objective behind the sealing procedure. It answered: The objective is to make sure there will be no activity at the two sites. We requested to discuss this issue with the UN team in order to achieve the same objective, namely, to evacuate the sites, dismantle the equipment or transfer it to any remote site agreed between the two parties, provided that Iraq reserves the right to return this equipment after the crisis is over and after the justifications for dismantling and evacuation are removed. The team's head informed us that he would study this matter and notify New York.

The head of the Iraqi side explained that Mark Silver requested to visit the two sites on the following day. Arrangements for the visit were made. When Silver arrived at the site, he immediately headed for the concrete testing platform. Silver began to walk to and fro, and then, in a theatrical way, they installed cameras in the direction of the Iraqi side accompanying the inspection team. Silver said he came to seal this site and asked the head of the Iraqi side whether he accepted or rejected this request.

Amin asserted that Iraq rejects this procedure because it is a terrorist and intelligence method and an exposed theatrical designed to fabricate a crisis with Iraq. He said that the head of the inspection team contacted New York from this site and requested to leave Iraq. This indicates that this procedure was theatrical, as Silver's arrival at the airport coincided with the landing of his aircraft, Amin added.

Ramadan Reacts to Gore Statements

JN1207171793 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1604 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Reacting to statements by U.S. Vice President Al Gore, Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and vice president, told the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY:

We have seen the statement made by the U.S. vice president. It appears from that statement that the U.S. vice president emphasizes the need for the UN inspection teams to inspect the factories and facilities covered by Resolution 687. Inspection teams have been carrying out inspection missions for over two years now, and the problem does not lie in the question of inspections, but in this new and serious type of demands, which are provocative and harmful and which are made by the UN Special Commission for political purposes that have nothing to do with the UN resolutions.

The most recent UN inspection team has asked to seal equipment and installations producing whatever they were producing in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. Their pretext was: You either allow us to install monitoring cameras in these plants, or we will seal them to prevent you from using them. This runs contrary to the spirit and letter of Resolution 687.

UN Special Commission Chairman Ekeus, for reasons we do not think are fair, wants to jump over Resolution 687 and start implementing other resolutions. We, on the other hand, demand that the Security Council fulfill its obligations to lift the blockade imposed on us in accordance with Resolution 687 before discussing the implementation of any other resolution. And we reserve our right to produce whatever we are allowed to produce, as stipulated by Security Council Resolution 687, in both the civilian and military fields.

The requests made by the most recent inspection team, backed by Ekeus, are aimed at prohibiting us from producing even what the UN Security Council has approved. The UN Special Committee chairman has not yet submitted a report pointing out that Iraq's obligations, as stipulated by Resolution 687, have been completed, thus necessitating the UN Security Council to start implementing its obligations—the foremost of which is lifting the blockade imposed at Iraq. Failure to submit that report constitutes a political attempt that goes too far in the policy of harming Iraq.

This is the fact of the matter. The U.S. vice president is either unaware of, or is not following, facts as they really are.

The vice president asserted that inspection in accordance with Resolution 687 is allowed in Iraq and there is no problem with that issue.

Arab League Informed of 'Fabricated' Crisis

*JN1207162293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (INA)—Dr. Nabil Najm, Iraq's permanent envoy to the Arab League, has informed the League's secretary general of the details of the crisis over the two missile sites fabricated by the UN inspection team.

In a memorandum he submitted today to the Arab League, Iraq's envoy presented Iraq's sound position and explained its cooperation with the Special Commission and its inspection teams. He also said Iraq does not object to the inspection of the two sites by the Committee.

He explained that the Iraqi side has offered every facility for the team's visit to these sites within the context of Resolution 687. Upon its visit, he said, the team carried out provocative acts aiming at creating tension with Iraq, which dealt with the team in a cool manner.

Ambassador Nabil Najm conveyed to the Arab League secretary general the letter sent by Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf to the UN Security Council president that explained that this fabricated crisis is another part of the game aimed at distorting Iraq's position.

Iraq's envoy urged the Arab League to shoulder its responsibilities in accordance with the Arab League Charter to prevent any aggression against Iraq.

Paper on Dispute Over UN Cameras

*JN1207153493 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1050 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Salah al-Mukhtar article from 12 July AL-JUMHURIYAH: "Ekeus Is the Secret Name of the Conspiracy"]

[Text] Yesterday, the evildoers began a new episode in the Western-Zionist conspiracy against Iraq and the Arab nation. Mark Silver, the American who headed the 60th UN inspection team, left Iraq in a theatrical manner, marking the beginning of the episode that his superior Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN Special Commission charged with supervising the implementation of UN resolutions, initiated.

Two days ago, Ekeus suddenly announced in New York the decision to dispatch an inspection team whose mission was to seal two sites for testing unbanned missiles in the Al-Yawm al-'Azim and al-Rafah plants. The decision was made on the pretext that Iraq refused to set up monitoring cameras in them, thus refusing to implement what he called UN Security Council Resolution 715.

This development focuses attention on two things: First, Ekeus revealed the nature of the inspection team's mission before it arrived, something that is not common practice. The team should arrive unannounced in order to attain its objectives. This is what has been done by the other teams in previous visits.

Second, the media hype that preceded and accompanied the visit was unusual. The Western media intentionally resorted to sensationalism, exaggerations, and threats. Thus, people began to believe that specific political objectives were behind the raising of such an issue.

Part of this sensationalism included U.S. officials threats to Iraq. The strangest, and the most questionable threat was U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's statements to CNN on 8 July, in which he said that the inspection team would try to set up cameras in some nuclear sites. Does Christopher, who is the U.S. secretary of state, not know that these two sites are not nuclear sites, but sites for testing missiles? It is difficult to accept the theory that Christopher did not know the true nature of these two sites. For this reason, we have a right to ask the following: Why does he seek to blow the issue out of proportion by describing these two plants as nuclear

sites? We cannot but draw the following sound conclusion—that Christopher intentionally resorts to ambiguity to mobilize the public opinion against Iraq and justify illegal and inhuman measures that might be taken against it. Where is the truth, then? What has taken place and is taking place? What do Ekeus and his masters want from the raising of this fabricated hype? Does this have anything to do with the increasing understanding of Iraq's stand or its right to have the siege lifted within the framework of the UN Security Council resolutions?

Let us start the story from the beginning to remove any confusion or misunderstanding. Since UN Security Council Resolution 687 is the basis of the moves and allegations being made by Ekeus and his team, given the fact that this resolution is being advanced as the rationale for threats, and since the whole episode showed the ignorance of Christopher and others, it is necessary to address the content of this resolution. The aim of Resolution 687 is to strip the entire region of the weapons of mass destruction. It was meant to be a move by the UN Security Council to render the Middle East a region free from weapons of mass destruction. This is the basic aim of the resolution. Hence, it contained measures similar to those enshrined in the disarmament agreements signed between the United States and the former Soviet Union, such as SALT I and SALT II. Among these measures were inspection and monitoring operations designed to ensure the implementation of agreements, and that the use and production of banned weapons are halted. Inspections in both the United States and the former Soviet Union were accomplished when inspection teams made unannounced visits to Soviet or U.S. sites to inspect them. As for monitoring, it includes both mechanical and human monitoring.

As regards Iraq, there are four categories of weapons banned by UN Security Council resolutions: biological weapons, chemical weapons, nuclear weapons, as well as missiles with a range longer than 150 km. This is because short-range missiles can harm Iraq, whereas missiles with longer ranges, such as those with a range of 700 km or over, can harm Iraq's enemies. Iraq agreed to Resolution 687 as part of its efforts to rid the Middle East region of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. It also accepted the measures meant to implement this resolution. These measures included the destruction of its arsenals of such weapons, as well as the destruction of some equipment used for the production of such weapons.

Obviously, the purpose of this was to prevent the acquisition or production of weapons of mass destruction or long-range missiles.

In accordance with Iraq's obligation to implement Security Council resolutions, the files of the biological and chemical weapons and the nuclear program were closed. This was acknowledged by the leader of the inspection team, who asserted that there was no secret nuclear reactor. As for the file on the missiles, there was no problem with it, since we have fulfilled our obligations.

This was also confirmed by Ekeus in a statement to Swedish television last January. Ekeus said then that 95 percent of the obligations stipulated under Resolution 687 had been achieved. Afterward, Ekeus told a U.S. television network that more than 90 percent of the said resolution had been implemented.

Last year, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz discussed the topic and explained in detail which parts of the resolution Iraq had implemented. He proved that Iraq had fulfilled its obligations under Security Council resolutions.

Paragraph 21 of Section C of Resolution 687 stipulates that the Security Council shall meet every two months to decide whether to lift the blockade in part, or in full, according to Iraq's commitment to the implementation of the resolutions. Therefore, 'Aziz asked that the blockade be lifted on the basis that Iraq had fulfilled all of its obligations.

Paragraph 22 of the same resolution stipulates that after implementing Resolution 687, Ekeus, chairman of the Special Commission, will submit a report confirming that Iraq had fulfilled its obligations under the resolution. The Security Council will then decide on lifting the blockade.

Iraq, therefore, asked Ekeus to discuss and review what parts of the resolution were left to implement, so that the situation would be clearer to everyone and the blockade would be lifted.

Ekeus's confession to Swedish television, as well as realities on the ground, confirm that Iraq has fulfilled all of its obligations. This means that justifying the continued blockade on Iraq to world public opinion is no longer possible, given that the world has started to wonder about the reasons for the continued blockade against an entire people.

Hence, the U.S. Administration began to fabricate crises from time to time in order to create pretexts to maintain the blockade, especially prior to the Security Council meetings every two months.

The problem of the cameras gives, in itself, conclusive evidence of Ekeus's malicious intentions and the criminal motives of those behind him. Installing cameras was not part of Resolution 687, which stipulates the destruction and inspection of weapons and weapon sites. Future surveillance is to begin after the implementation of Resolution 687 has been completed, that is, after lifting the blockade. The purpose of this surveillance will be to ensure there will be no resumption of the production or acquisition of any of the banned or destroyed weapons.

Surveillance here means installing cameras at two sites for testing missile engines, whose range does not exceed 150 km. The two sites were established with UN approval and within its resolutions. This mission is different from the destruction and inspections specified in Resolution 687. Resolution 715 stipulates future

surveillance. Iraq has accepted this. In line with the content of the resolutions, especially Resolutions 687 and 715, Iraq agreed that implementing Resolution 715 on future surveillance with cameras should happen after the implementation of Resolution 687 is completed. This means, very specifically, after lifting the blockade. This was clear to Ekeus and his masters and no one objected to it. In fact, the resolution was issued by them.

And here begins the new U.S.-Zionist game, of which Ekeus is the director. He has jumped to the task of implementing Resolution 715, by demanding the installation of surveillance cameras, before accomplishing a prerequisite task he should have performed—namely, acknowledging that Iraq has honored its commitments, and recommending that the embargo be lifted in accordance with Resolution 687. The objective behind this serious game is clear. It is to create confusion regarding Iraq's commitment to UN resolutions, and consequently to justify the maintenance of the embargo. The evidence that we advance to support our views is that Ekeus has recently dispatched Mark Silver, an American, to Iraq when he could have dispatched a different person from a neutral country. As for Silver, he surprised Iraqi officials when he attempted to seal the two plants, even though their equipment has been disassembled. The Iraqi side proposed to Silver that this equipment be monitored and placed at another location so that they may not be destroyed by the United States.

The heart of the matter here is that the two plants, including the equipment in them, were established with the approval of the United Nations. Why then do Ekeus and his masters want to seal them right now?

The U.S.-dominated United Nations is fully aware that this equipment is not used for the production of banned weapons. Why, then, should they be sealed so that they may be destroyed later? The UN Special Commission has attempted to turn its job from that of monitoring banned equipment into that of monitoring, banning, and destroying unbanned equipment. This is a serious precedent that would, if accepted, cause the sealing of unbanned plants. The UN Special Commission could contend that unbanned plants and establishments may still be used for military purposes, even if they are civilian plants or establishments.

As has become clear from this presentation, this fabricated crisis is aimed achieving political rather than technical objectives. There is room for agreement on technical issues. However, the latest inspection team has come to Iraq to achieve political objectives announced prior to its arrival in Baghdad. These objectives concern the attempt to strip Iraq of its technological capabilities and undermine its sovereignty through raising issues not agreed upon, issues that have nothing to do with the relevant UN resolutions.

This whole episode is meant to blackmail Iraq and to keep it on edge so that Washington may justify its continued killing of thousands of Iraqis by denying them

access to medicines and food. It is also designed to destroy the pillars of Iraq's progress and future.

Given all this, the Iraqi people and their leadership have the right to defend their interests and rights, to protect their future generations, and to shoulder the burdens of a genuine national stand.

Iraq has honored all its commitments. Most members of the international community have acknowledged this. Their awareness of this fact is growing day in and day out. This makes the continuation of the embargo unacceptable and unjustifiable on the international scene.

From this premise, it follows that Ekeus and his masters are attempting to obstruct or delay efforts to lift the embargo by misrepresenting facts and exacerbating the situation. Nevertheless, the Iraqi people, given all the immense and dear sacrifices they have made to safeguard the dignity of the homeland and citizens and to protect the future of our sons and nation, will persist with their struggle and with their efforts to build their future on the basis of the great principles upheld by our historic leader President Saddam Husayn.

National Assembly Urges End to U.S. 'Aggression'

*JN1207161593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1240 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jul (INA)—The Iraqi National Assembly's Human Rights Committee has urged all free people in the world and advocates of humanity and human rights to denounce and condemn the criminal act, perpetrated by U.S. President Clinton, of launching a treacherous missile attack on the morning of 27 June against the peaceful Iraqi people.

In an appeal today, the Committee urged solidarity with the people of Iraq. It also called for an end to these barbaric, aggressive acts against the civilian Iraqis and said these acts violate all values and ethics and the foundations of international law. They also constitute a flagrant violation of human rights and a clear infringement on the United Nations and its agencies and set a serious precedent in international relations, the appeal added.

The committee stressed that the recent U.S. aggression against Baghdad is aimed at continuing the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Paper on U.S. 'Inhuman Treatment' of Egyptian Shaykh

*JN1307124993 Baghdad INA in Arabic 10555 GMT
13 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jul (INA)—AL-QADISIYAH has warned the United States of the risks inherent in its adversarial attitude toward national causes and peoples' yearnings for national sovereignty.

The paper, mouthpiece of the Defense Ministry, said in an article today: Unless the United States rethinks its antagonistic line, liberation movements and independent nations are bound to work vigorously to arrest the slide of humanity, sinisterly manipulated by the United States.

The paper lashed out at the inhuman treatment of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman by his U.S. jailers. His detention, AL-QADISIYAH stated, is in line with the animosity the Americans hold toward the Arabs and Muslims and their urge for liberation. The decision to refuse this blind shaykh medicine is calculated to get rid of him on a charge now being cooked by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Civil Defense Teams Defuse '42 Unexploded Bombs'

JN1107200693 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT
11 Jul 93

[Text] Baghdad, July 11, INA—The bomb disposal experts at the Civil Defence Department in Maysan Province (Southern Iraq) have defused 42 unexploded bombs and missiles last month dropped by the U.S.-led coalition warplanes in various parts of the province.

A Civil Defence Department source told INA that the Civil Defence teams continue field search tours to defuse the live bombs.

Memorandum to UN Protests Airspace 'Violations'

JN0907160293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1446 GMT
9 Jul 93

[Text] New York, 9 Jul (INA)—Iraq has lodged a new protest with the United Nations over continuing U.S. aircraft violations of its airspace for purposes of surveillance and provocation.

According to a memorandum sent by Iraq's permanent UN delegate to the secretary general yesterday, the aircraft carried out 543 sorties from 29 June to 5 July.

The Iraqi delegate asked that the memorandum be circulated as a UN Security Council document.

Airspace 'Violations' Reported to Arab League

JN0907153593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT
9 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (INA)—Iraq has informed the Arab League that the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti rulers continue to provide facilities for U.S., British, and French aircraft violating Iraq's airspace.

A letter sent by Iraq's permanent Arab League representative to the League's secretary general yesterday noted that on 5 and 6 July aircraft launched from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait carried out 135 sorties. A list detailing the violations was attached to the letter.

Continued 'Violations' Protested

JN1207104193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (INA)—Iraq has informed the Arab League that the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait continue to provide facilities to U.S., British, and French aircraft violating Iraqi airspace.

In a letter to the Arab League secretary general yesterday, Iraq's permanent Arab League representative noted that these aircraft continued to violate Iraq's airspace on 7, 8, and 9 July, taking off from Saudi Arabia, conducting 195 aggressive sorties.

He enclosed a list detailing the violations.

Envoy to Arab League Says Demarcation Creates Tension

NC1307082193 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Jul 93 p 6

[Report by Rasha Sabri Abu-al-Majd]

[Excerpt] Iraq's Arab League Representative Nabil Najm has said that the Security Council's decision on the demarcation of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border exceeds the authority and functions of the United Nations as specified in its Charter.

Commenting on the documentary file that Kuwait presented to the Arab League on the border with Iraq, Najm told AL-AHRAM that the border demarcation cannot be imposed by force. Since the establishment of the modern state, he explained, demarcation has been left to the will and agreement of the concerned states. He said the decision will not help stability in the region but rather will create a hotbed of permanent tension. He said the decision intentionally harms Iraq's interests. [passage omitted]

Ramadan Receives Arab Popular Forces Conference Official

JN1007145393 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and vice president, has received Mashhur Hadithah, assistant secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference.

During the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan stressed that thanks to a small group of faithful people, the message of Islam triumphed over all forces of infidelity and polytheism and the renegades. The principles for which Iraq fights, he said, are the principles of justice, freedom, and equality. These will triumph over all U.S., Zionist, and Atlantic forces of injustice, as well as their failed, frightened, and renegade agents.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said: The battle the Arab nation is fighting against its enemies is truly a fatal battle and the battle of all honorable, courageous Arabs. He said he is

confident they will defeat their enemies and the agents and traitors. He asserted that Iraq's triumph, alone, over the enemies is a triumph for the Arab force that is capable of surmounting the difficulties, achieving victory, and tearing all chapters of aggression, treachery, and betrayal. [passage omitted]

Ramadan on Celebrations on Revolution Anniversary

*JN1107122093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0841 GMT
11 Jul 93*

[By Ghassan al-Qadi]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 11 Jul (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and head of the commission in charge of the silver jubilee celebration of the glorious 17-30 July revolution, has affirmed that this year's celebrations on this immortal occasion will have a special, distinguished meaning. This is because, he said, this occasion marks the beginning of a new era and the end of an era of endeavor, attitudes, and changes witnessed by Iraq, the Arab nation, and the world covering a quarter of a century.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY on the 25th anniversary of the glorious 17-30 July revolution anniversary, Ramadan said that the Iraqi people will sincerely express their absolute confidence that they are entering a new era, that they will eventually triumph over the enemies, and that all their energies and capabilities will be launched to establish an exemplary experience around which the masses of the Arab nation will be rallied. Thus, he said, the Arab masses' confidence and faith in the future for the sake of which they have struggled for three decades and offered heavy sacrifices, headed by the righteous martyrs, will be enhanced.

Taha Yasin Ramadan added that on the revolution's silver jubilee, party, professional, popular, and mass organizations will express the people's rallying around their great leader, President Saddam Husayn. He said the people will also express their absolute faith in the revolution. Within this framework, seminars will be held and lectures delivered in Baghdad and the governorates to talk about the leader's role in the planning and execution of the revolution. They will also highlight his excellency's role in leading the revolution throughout the past quarter of a century. [passage omitted]

In his statement, Taha Yasin Ramadan touched on President Saddam Husayn's initiative of assigning RCC members and ministers the task of directly supervising a development campaign in various districts. He said that this campaign is aimed at finding new action formulas to offer services to citizens in these districts. He said this campaign constitutes a basic example in sound reconstruction. It reflects a special gesture, not in Iraq only, but in the entire world because it indicates great interest at the highest levels in the administration of districts. [passage omitted]

Tariq 'Aziz Holds Meeting With Fatah Movement Official

*JN1207182293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jul (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and official in charge of the RCC's Arab Liberation Movements Bureau, today received Sakhr Habash, alias Abu-Nizar, member of the Fatah Movement's Central Committee.

During the meeting, they reviewed conditions in the Arab and world arenas, the ceaseless conspiracies and aggression against Iraq, and the Palestine question.

Tariq 'Aziz said Iraq's steadfastness in the immortal Mother of Battles and the continued intifadah by our Palestinian Arab people inside the occupied territories are the most shining marks in the history of contemporary Arab struggle against enemy schemes. He stressed that this steadfastness constitutes an established foundation for facing the schemes of the colonialist and Zionist powers.

Abu-Nizar reaffirmed the Palestinian Arab people's and the PLO's support for the people and leadership of Iraq in the face of the aggression. He also praised the steadfastness of the great Iraqi citizens.

The meeting was attended by 'Azzam al-Ahmad, the Palestinian ambassador to Iraq.

Presidential Office Adviser Meets Cuban Party Member

*JN1107201293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1915 GMT
11 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jul (INA)—Khalid 'Abd-al-Mun'im Rashid, adviser at the Presidential Office, today met with Professor Rodrigo Cambras Alvarez, a Cuban Communist Party Central Committee [CCPCC] member, and head of the Arab-Cuban Friendship Society, currently visiting the country.

Mr. Rashid applauded the state of growing relations between the people of the two friendly countries as they encounter U.S. attempts to manipulate peace-loving nations.

He stressed that Professor Cambras' recurrent visits to Iraq testify to the deep and cooperative ties the two friendly countries have, especially under the present circumstances in which Iraq is the target of an oppressive American aggression to stop the wheel of its advancement.

Professor Cambras reiterated the denunciation of the Cuban people and leadership of the missile attack on the friendly people of Iraq. He emphasized that the Cuban people stand solidly by Iraq as it stands up resolutely and courageously to imperialist attempts to subjugate independent and peace-loving nations, including Iraq.

Mr. Rashid and Mr. Cambras explored avenues of cooperation between the Iraqi and Cuban people, especially their common fight against all forms of aggression and neo-colonialism.

Upon his arrival in Baghdad, the Cuban guest denounced the missile attack that claimed the lives of several Iraqis in Baghdad. He noted that the Cuban leadership and people had denounced the American aggression on the Iraqi people, who are opposed to American domination. He indicated that he carries with him the text of the Cuban Parliament's denunciation of the treacherous attack.

Health Minister Meets Cuban Official

JN1207173193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jul (INA)—Health Minister Dr. Umid Midhat Mubarak today met with Prof. Rodrigo Cambras Alvarez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and head of the Cuban-Iraqi Friendship Society, and his delegation currently visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, the two officials discussed prospects for cooperation between the two friendly countries in the fields of health and social needs and the means to improve them.

SAIRI Reports Attacks on Armed Forces, Party Official

LD1107164893 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1600 GMT
11 Jul 93

[Text] Tehran, 11 Jul (KUNA)—The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] announced today that the Iraqi opposition forces launched a Katyusha missile attack on an Iraqi people's armed forces' camp in al-'Amarah province in which more than 200 elements of the regime were killed or wounded inside the camp.

SAIRI pointed out in a communique sent to the KUNA office in Tehran that a big number of high-ranking members of al-Ba'ath party were present at the camp when the missile attack took place last week.

The communique further said that the opposition elements set up an ambush for Mazban Khadir Hadi, a member of the regional command of the al-Ba'ath party and the secretary of the central office of the so-called people's vocational organization, who was in a six-vehicle convoy equipped with various weapons.

The communique said that the attack resulted in the destruction of four vehicles and the killing of more than 13 security guards, while Mazban Khadir Hadi was able to escape in his armored car.

Marshland Residents Flee Attacks, Head Toward Iran

NC0907151793 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Text] Tyrant Saddam Husayn's troops have stepped up their attacks against areas in southern Iraq, forcing thousands of Iraqi citizens to flee their homes toward the borders with Iran. In a statement issued in London, sources of the Iraqi opposition have noted that approximately 2,000 Iraqis are escaping the attacks of Saddam's troops against the marshes and are heading toward the borders with Iran. The sources added that more than 1,400 Iraqis are assembled at the other side of the Iranian borders in scorching temperatures to escape the annihilation campaign launched by tyrant Saddam Husayn against the inhabitants of the marshes.

The Iraqi opposition statement pointed out that Iraqi citizens are having trouble getting out of the region because of the drop in the water level of the marshes. Many people have died as a result of lack of food and medical care and the high temperatures, the statement added.

Regime's Artillery Shells Kurdish Areas; No Casualties

NC1107190193 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1705 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] The 'Aflaqite regime's artillery shelled villages between (Ki Khabur) and (Ki Khana) in the (Salazani) near the Syrian border yesterday morning. The artillery shelling occurred as the farmers were harvesting their crops. The hostile shelling did not cause any casualties.

Demonstrators Urge Ending Allied Presence in Kurdistan

NC1207165193 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] A large crowd demonstrated in 'rbil last week, calling for the withdrawal of Western allied forces in Kurdistan and for domestic resources to defend the area. The demonstrators voiced their anger at the difficult living and security conditions facing them because of the embargo imposed on them by Saddam and Western countries. The embargo has created a strong feeling among the Kurds that the job of the alliance forces deployed in the region is not to protect them but to encourage the partition and dismemberment of Iraq.

The demonstrators called for cooperation among Iraqi opposition groups to step up resistance against the regime of tyrant Saddam Husayn.

Kurdish Official Comments on Phone Line Contract

NC1007185493 Paris AFP in English 1835 GMT
10 Jul 93

[Text] Irbil, Iraq, July 10 (AFP)—Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq will be linked to the international communications network as part of an agreement signed Friday with a Los Angeles firm, a company spokesman said.

Since March 1991 when the Kurds rebelled against Baghdad, the north has had no telephone or mail links with the outside world, apart from the rare satellite telephones operated by political parties.

John Early of Telemobile Inc. told AFP that Kurds will be able to make domestic calls as early as October and international calls several months later.

It will be the first attempt to link Iraqi Kurdistan to an international communications network.

The first phase of the project will cost about 250,000 dollars, he said, adding that the U.S. State Department approved the deal between the Los Angeles-based Telemobile Inc. and the Kurdish "government" in northern Iraq.

"The State Department has offered to contact both the United Nations sanctions committee and the Turkish authorities to get the necessary permission" to go ahead with the project, Early said.

Iraq, which has been under U.N. sanctions since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, needs permission from the sanctions committee to import telecommunication equipment.

The Turkish government must also grant permission for the material to transit on its territory.

Husayn Sincari, the Kurdish "deputy minister" of transport and communication, described the deal as "the most important international contract signed by the Kurdish government" which would allow Kurds to have an autonomous communications network.

Kurds elected a parliament in May 1992 in defiance of Baghdad, which has since imposed a blockade on their regions. Their government is not recognised by the international community.

Last month Turkey agreed to allow the Kurds the use of a post box in the town of Silopi, near the border with Iraqi Kurdistan, thus enabling them to send letters abroad and receive foreign mail after two years of isolation from the rest of the world.

Rabin Comments on Reports of PLO-Israel Contacts

TA1207185793 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that the negotiations for the establishment of interim arrangements in the territories are conducted between Israel and the Palestinian delegation in Washington. The prime minister's remarks were made in response to a request for comment on Yasir 'Arafat's statement about the existence of contacts between official Israeli representatives and PLO officials, contacts that yielded no results.

Replying to our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik's question, the prime minister added that an agreement will be signed only with the Palestinian delegation to the Washington talks, and no other element.

Our correspondent notes that the prime minister's remarks contain no direct reference to 'Arafat's statement about the direct contacts between Israeli representatives and PLO personnel. [passage omitted]

Anyone negotiating with the Palestinian delegation is also negotiating de facto with those with whom the delegation consults. This observation was made today by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. The foreign minister added that he knew nothing of any negotiations with the PLO conducted through the Labor party. [passage omitted]

Labor MK Says PLO Interested in Unofficial Talks

TA1307064893 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Labor Knesset Member Yosi Katz, who returned from a meeting with PLO members in Milan, said there are no official or unofficial contacts between the Israeli Government and the PLO. MK Katz received the impression from his meeting with Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, a senior PLO official, that the organization is interested in holding an unofficial dialogue with the government in order to overcome obstacles and reach understandings.

Likud MK Dan Meridor believes that remarks by ministers in favor of negotiations with the PLO make it difficult for the Palestinian delegation to present proposals, make decisions, and be more flexible in its positions.

Rubinstein Answers Questions After Ross Meeting

TA1307090393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0758 GMT 13 Jul 93

[News conference by Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein after the meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and the U.S. peace team headed by Dennis Ross, at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem—live; monitored in progress]

[Excerpts] [Rubinstein] ...the negotiating team. As will be recalled, the U.S. team under Dennis Ross was in Syria and Jordan and met with the Palestinians. The overall situation is clear: On the agenda are problems that have cropped up in the negotiations, but also problems linked to developments on the Lebanese border. All those issues were discussed at length in various ways in this meeting. I would like to add that the problematic issue of shipping to the port of Elat was raised, and we were promised that everything would be done to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.

[Qol Yisra'el's Shlomo Raz] Is U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher coming to Israel next week? In other words, was progress made in the contacts between the peace teams?

[Rubinstein] That issue was not raised in the meeting at length. I will not say anything beyond that.

[Unidentified correspondent] Was there any answer to the U.S. appeal to Syria to cease arms supplies to the terrorists in south Lebanon?

[Rubinstein] All the issues were discussed. I suggest we do not go into details beyond that. Israel's concerns are known also to the Syrians, and of course, we are following what is happening there very closely and on a daily basis.

[Raz] But can we say that the tension with the Syrians is declining in the wake of this morning's talks with the U.S. team?

[Rubinstein] All I can say is that these contacts are continuing and will continue in various ways in the coming days. I would not like to say anything beyond that. Thank you.

[Raz] That is it. Rubinstein made very general remarks. [passage omitted] Something that might point to progress in the contacts between Israel and the Palestinians is the fact that when the meeting with Prime Minister Rabin ended, Elyaqim Rubinstein—who heads the team to negotiations with the Palestinians—conferred in a side room with the U.S. team to go over what they called the fine print. That may indicate that they dwelled on the U.S. draft document.

Political sources this morning said they believe that the Americans believe that the gaps can be bridged and formulas can be found that will not violate the two sides' positions of principle. The main obstacles for Israel and the Palestinians—which, of course, have contrary positions—are Jerusalem and the boundaries of the autonomy's jurisdiction. Israel opposes both those clauses in the U.S. document while the Palestinians accept them. We just have to wait to see if Christopher arrives in the area next week as this will be a clear sign of progress in the negotiations.

Issue of Ship Searches Raised With U.S. Team*TA0907132793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 9 Jul 93*

[Text] Uri Savir, director general of the Foreign Ministry, has said that the problem of UN searches of Elat-bound ships must be settled soon, and will presumably be solved soon. He told our correspondent Jack Katzenell that Israel raised the issue today in unequivocal terms with the U.S. peace team and with the UN institutions.

Likud Knesset Member Moshe Qatzav said he feared the port of Elat might close down and Israel's sovereignty might be affected, and called on the government to take immediate action to solve the problem.

Lubrani: Response to Terrorism Unrelated to Talks*TA0907173593 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Jul 93*

[Studio interview with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, by Menashe Bahr on 9 July—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles; processed from the Hebrew]

[Text] [Lubrani] We view the deterioration in south Lebanon with gravity. I believe the situation there is very dangerous. I think this provocation is dangerous for Israel. The terrorists and those who send them, the Lebanese Army and those who command it, the Lebanese Government and those who direct the Lebanese Government must realize that this provocation is unacceptable to us and that we will find ways of dealing with it, as we have always done in the past.

[Bahr] When you refer to ways of dealing with it, are you talking about a massive Israeli operation there?

[Lubrani] At present I am not talking about actions, I am talking about the fact that we have reached a situation whereby we know that this grave situation calls for reconsideration of the situation in the north of the country.

[Bahr] Do you agree with those who in recent days referred to the need to change Israeli policy toward the security zone? Should something be changed in the security zone?

[Lubrani] We constantly evaluate the situation, and we act on the ground according to those evaluations, which are not monolithic. They change according to what is happening on the ground. There is no doubt that what is happening on the ground now calls for a reconsideration of the situation, and we will see what has to be done in order to deal with the new situation.

[Bahr] Do you not view the escalation in recent days as a sort of Syrian signal to Israel? It is as though they might be saying: If you do not progress on the political track, if you do not compromise, we will escalate terrorist actions against you.

[Lubrani] If the Syrians really think that by doing what they are doing against us via emissaries across the security zone

and along our northern border they will influence our policy in other areas—such as the Israeli-Syrian track—they must realize it is a big mistake. We will deal with the former unrelated to what is happening in the latter. It is a confrontation that has its own life. We will not permit the situation to be escalated to a point that life cannot go on in the security zone. We have already said that we will continue to find a way to make progress in the peace process—and that is also true for the Lebanese track—unrelated to what has to be done on the ground as a result of subversive terrorist activity against us. We will continue to do so unrelated to what is happening. It could make it tougher, but under no circumstances will we stop.

Rabin Comments on Jerusalem Arabs' Vote, Gaza, Golan*TA1307103293 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Jul 93 p A3*

[Report by Ilan Shahar]

[Excerpts] In a meeting with the extended United Torah Judaism [UTJ] Knesset faction on 11 July, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that he favors allowing the Arab residents of Jerusalem to vote for the autonomy institutions, to prevent them from voting for the Knesset. This stand is different from that which Israeli Governments have so far maintained, namely, granting Israeli citizenship to the Jerusalem Arabs.

In the meeting Rabin said: "I am almost willing to support HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] against the Israeli Islamic Movement." Regarding the Gaza Strip, the prime minister said that "if you offer Gaza to the Egyptians for free, they would tell you to choke on it." Referring to Amnesty International, Rabin said: "I do not care about them. It may be unpleasant, but there is no need to get excited about it."

Commenting on the missile threat against Israel, Rabin said that "the Patriot is a great missile for public relations, not for intercepting missiles." [passage omitted]

Regarding Jerusalem, Rabin said that there are 150,000 Arab residents there. "I would rather have them voting for the elected bodies of the autonomy, as long as they do not vote for the Knesset; they will have to have the right to vote one way or the other," he said. Rabin stressed that he is referring to the possibility of voting for the autonomy institutions, not being elected to them.

The prime minister said he prefers that the Jerusalem Arabs not vote for the Knesset, although this will damage Labor.

Rabin's Spokesman Gad Ben-Ari said in response that Rabin was reiterating his well-known stand according to which he is willing to allow the residents of East Jerusalem to take part in elections for the autonomy institutions. According to Ben-Ari, one of the reasons Rabin mentioned for supporting this stand is that he would rather they voted for the autonomy institutions, and not for the Knesset.

In the meeting with the UTJ faction, the prime minister said: "I am interested in speeding up the process regarding Gaza because we have an interest in getting rid of Gaza. The Egyptians are not willing to hear about it at all. I do not really have a partner for the Gaza-first business. When we get out of Gaza," Rabin estimated, "there will be a war between Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the PLO, and I do not know who will win it."

Regarding the Golan Heights, Rabin said: "It is impossible to talk about a leasing deal today because this would mean that they already own it, which is nonsense." The prime minister reported that in the last meeting of the peace talks delegations in Washington, the Syrian representative said that "a distinction should be made between peace and its results. Itamar Rabinovich responded by saying we too will make a distinction between the withdrawal and the results of the withdrawal." Rabin also declared that Israel will not agree to remove Jewish settlements in the territories.

Regarding the missile threat to Israel, Rabin said that "we have always known that they have surface-to-surface missiles, and we have known that we do not have answers for them." According to him, "the Patriot was effective in barely 20 percent of the cases. It is not an efficient weapon for intercepting missiles. We, therefore, opted for the Arrow project, and we are world leaders in the development of an antimissile missile." The prime minister added that we need another seven years and a billion dollars before the Arrow becomes operational.

Knesset Defeats No Confidence Motion 57-42

TA1207175893 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The government has survived a vote of no confidence in the Knesset. The vote was 57 to 42. The motion was presented by the Likud, Tzomet, and National Religious Party. The motion was over the situation in south Lebanon.

[Reporting on the 12 July Knesset debate, Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 12 July states: "Replying on behalf of the government, Minister Hayim Ramon said that the Lebanese Government seems to be interested in applying savage pressure on Israel by the means of terrorist organizations. Ramon cautioned the Lebanese Government against being a pawn in the hands of Syria and Iran.

["He added that Israel has relayed via the United States a message to Syria saying that it reserves full freedom of action in defending Israel's north."]

Butrus-Ghali Meets Envoy, Promises Help on MIA's

TA1107103493 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Jul 93 p 1

[Report by the New York correspondent]

[Text] UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali has undertaken the pursuit of efforts aimed at locating and freeing the Israeli navigator Ron Arad. Butrus-Ghali's promise, made during a private meeting with Israel's UN Ambassador Gad

Ya'aqobi last Friday [9 July], ended the brief and sharp clash between the secretary general and Israel on the Arad affair. Last week Butrus-Ghali sharply criticized unnamed Israeli diplomats, claiming they were harming the efforts to locate Arad with their "unnecessary verbosity."

This remark by Butrus-Ghali greatly angered those involved in the efforts to locate Arad and the other Israeli MIA's, because to date not even one morsel of significant information was relayed by Butrus-Ghali in this issue.

Last Friday, Butrus-Ghali initiated a meeting with Ya'aqobi in a bid to overcome the misunderstanding. He claimed that he has been misquoted, stressing that he intends to pursue efforts to locate Arad and the other MIA's. With Butrus-Ghali's knowledge, the Israeli UN delegation published a statement acceptable to both sides, according to which "the issue is sensitive and important, and must be dealt with in a practical and discreet manner."

Senior Officer on Attempted Infiltrations in South

TA1207113193 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 12 Jul 93 p 7

[Report by Amnon Yosef]

[Text] Over the past few weeks, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] foiled five attempts by terrorists to infiltrate Israeli territory along the borders with Egypt and Jordan. This was revealed to HADASHOT by a senior officer at the Southern Command.

The terrorists planned to carry out attacks at tourist resorts in the southern part of the country. There were no Israeli casualties in any of the five clashes.

The infiltrations from Egypt occurred near the border fence in the 'Uvda area. The terrorists from Jordan tried to cross the border in the 'Arava region.

Last week there was another attempt by terrorists to infiltrate from Jordan, but it was also successfully foiled.

Approximately two months ago, five members of a terrorist squad were killed on the Egyptian border near Har Harif.

Sources in the Southern Command praised the alertness of the units which prevented a number of murderous attacks in the southern part of the country. The officer added that apparently the terrorists were trying to heat up the borders between Israel, Egypt, and Jordan.

Two Arab Youths Killed, Two Wounded by IDF Gunfire

TA1207192993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Two 19-year-old youths were killed and two others were wounded—one moderately and another slightly—by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers' gunfire in Nabulus tonight. A military source said that an IDF unit spotted masked men laying down burning tires near the Balatah

refugee camp. The soldiers tried to stop the masked men, but when the latter ignored the call to halt, the soldiers fired at them.

The IDF is investigating the circumstances of the incident.

Four Kahana Hay Members Detained for Grenade Attack

TA1307061693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Four minors, members of the Kahana Hay party, have been detained on suspicion of throwing the hand grenade eight months ago in Jerusalem's Old City that killed an Arab and seriously injured eight others. Three of the four youths have already admitted their guilt. The four have been remanded in custody for eight days. The attack came only a few days before the two-year anniversary of Rabbi Me'ir Kahana's murder in New York City. A Qol Yisra'el reporter says the fragmentation grenade which killed 62-year-old Razzaq al-Khayak was stolen from the IDF [Israel Defense Forces].

Estonian Prime Minister Meets With Peres

TA1307131993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Estonia's President Mart Laar [title as heard] this morning had a meeting with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Laar arrived in Israel last night and has already held a working dinner with Prime Minister Rabin. It is the first visit to Israel by an Estonian prime minister. Jack Katzenell reports:

Estonia is in serious economic trouble, not least because of the crisis in its relations with Russia over the status of its large Russian minority. Prime Minister Mart Laar said he and Shim'on Peres had similar views on international issues. They had discussed economic cooperation and agreed on protection of investments and avoidance of double taxation. There would also be an aviation agreement, and trade delegations would be exchanged to find opportunities for investment and exports. Both favor an liberal, open economy.

Laar and Peres also discussed the prosecution of former Estonian Nazi war criminals living in other countries and how to bring them to justice. [passage omitted] Prime Minister Laar said Estonia is very interested in having these people convicted. It is also interested in justice for the Jews who were deported to Siberia by the communist regime.

Laar denied that there is a crisis today in relations between Estonia and Russia. He defined the dispute over the status of the Russian minority as just a problem.

'Opportunities' Seen in Relations With Vietnam

TA1207181993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Vietnam and Israel are to establish diplomatic relations. A memorandum of understanding was signed today by the visiting Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and his Israeli counterpart, Yosi Beilin. At the ceremony was our reporter Jack Katzenell:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Vietnam and Israel have been exchanging trade delegations in the past year or so and indulging in other variants of ping-pong diplomacy. One or two Israeli technical experts are already operating in Vietnam on a semiofficial basis, and Vietnamese students are studying in Israel. [passage omitted]

Nguyen Dy Nien says Vietnam is very interested in Israeli expertise to help to restore an economy destroyed by 30 years of war. He also believes friendship with Israel will make it easier for Vietnam to achieve reconciliation with the United States.

[Nguyen Dy Nien] I think that Israel has many friends in the United States, and I think the Israeli community in the States is very, very, I think, strong, and I think, influential. We hope that this will have a good impact on the process of normalization between U.S. and Vietnam.

[Katzenell] Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin said there is nothing like a new friend. Vietnam is a very important country in southeast Asia, Beilin said. With a population of 70 million, it offers unlimited opportunities for Israel.

[Beilin] Well, of course, economically, politically, we are thinking about a new chapter in our diplomatic life. We are reaching out to Asia, to southeast Asia. It is a developing area, which develops very rapidly, and we would like very much to be there, part of this very unique opportunity in the history of the new world.

[Katzenell] Both deputy ministers conceded that the two countries were separated in the past by historical barriers, but Nguyen Dy Nien said these had been removed by the end of the cold war and the example of so many other countries which had established relations with Israel. He stressed that Vietnam would continue to maintain its traditionally close relations with the Arab world. He did not think this would be affected by its new friendship with Israel. [end recording]

Industry and Trade Minister Mikha Harish has met with Vietnam's deputy foreign minister. The two countries are discussing a trade agreement. Israel is proposing cooperation in the fields of telecommunications, agriculture, tourism, and medicine.

Al-Majali Receives Jordanian-Palestinian Committee

JN1207173693 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received at the Prime Ministry today the members of the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian committee. They are: Information Minister Dr. Ma'n Abu-Nuwar; Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, minister of state for cabinet affairs; Mahmud 'Abbas, head of the Palestinian side in the committee; Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department; Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Steering Committee of the Palestinian negotiating delegation; and al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, Palestinian ambassador in Amman.

Dr. al-Majali was briefed during the meeting on the results of the first meeting of the committee, held at the Foreign Ministry today to coordinate joint positions toward basic issues pertaining to the peace process, as well future relations between the two fraternal Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

Ross Holds Meeting With Prime Minister, Prince Hasan

Al-Majali Stresses PLO Role in Talks

JN1207174393 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received at the Prime Ministry this evening Dennis Ross, American coordinator for the Middle East peace talks, and Edward Djerejian, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern Affairs. The meeting was attended by the information minister, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, the head of the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral peace talks and Jordan's ambassador in Washington, the Foreign Ministry secretary general, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

The prime minister and the audience were briefed by Ross on the results of his tour, as well as his talks in Israel, Egypt, and Syria. Ross said his talks were useful and fruitful. He also said that the U.S. paper presented to both the Israeli and Palestinian sides is not a final position but a draft that can be amended and developed with the agreement of both sides.

The prime minister stressed that Jordan insists on a just and comprehensive solution on all tracks. He explained that the peace march would gain a new momentum because of the Palestinians' participation, not only through their coordination with the PLO, but also through the PLO's direct role in the peace talks in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Dr. al-Majali said Jordan stresses the need to give real and comprehensive authority to the Palestinians so that the land-for-peace formula and UN resolutions on the Palestine question can gain credibility. He said they constitute a basis for the peace

process begun in Madrid and are aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question and the overall conflict in the Middle East region.

Prince Hasan Discusses Peace Process

JN1207184393 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] His Highness Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening Dennis Ross, American coordinator for the Arab-Israeli peace talks; Edward Djerejian, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs; and Martin Indyk, member of the U.S. delegation. His highness explained to the U.S. delegation the principles of the firm Jordanian position, as well as Jordan's assessment of the results of the talks and ideas proposed to push the peace process forward in order to reach a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

Ross then gave a briefing on the delegation's talks during its recent tour of the region. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and the minister of state for cabinet affairs.

[Amman Jordan Television Network in English at 1900 GMT on 12 July reports: "The American delegation also met overall head of the Palestinian negotiating team Faysal al-Husayni before leaving for Jerusalem tonight. Ross told the 'News at Ten' that he had positive discussions in Jordan."]

Ross' Activities Detailed

JN1207180393 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator for the peace talks, has held separate talks with Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan Bin-Talal. The talks were followed by an expanded meeting between the two sides attended by 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the prime minister, Jawad al-'Anani, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, and Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's ambassador in Washington, who is also the head of his country's delegation to the peace talks.

Informed sources have said that Ross asked the Jordanians to intervene to make the Palestinians adopt a flexible stand toward the U.S. document. However, Amman considers the document a purely Palestinian affair, and therefore supports any Palestinian stand toward this issue.

Ross also met in Amman with Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian delegations. Al-Husayni told our radio that he explained to the U.S. envoy the important points in the U.S. document, and reiterated the firm Palestinian position in the hope that Washington will understand this position.

Ross stressed that his meetings with the Jordanian officials fall within the framework of the talks he is holding in the region, taking into consideration that the kingdom plays an important role in the peace process.

Concerning his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Ross said that they were good.

Ross' talks in Amman have come at a time when the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee is currently holding its meetings to coordinate the two sides' stands toward the peace process. This joint committee decided to form six committees to discuss the joint issues of Jerusalem, refugees and evacuees, security, border, economy, water, legislations, and laws.

Prime Minister Queried on Peace Talks, 'Confederation'

NC1307135093 *Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic* 0510 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Interview with Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali in Amman by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz, in Cairo, on the "Dialogue From Afar" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] ['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, welcome to the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Majali] Thank you and thanks to the Voice of the Arabs.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] This is our first interview with you since becoming the Jordanian prime minister. You chaired the Jordanian delegation during nine rounds of the Arab-Israeli negotiations and the 10th round of these negotiations has ended. What is Jordan's impression from or stand on the 10 rounds held so far?

[Al-Majali] I reiterate the Jordanian stand, which we spelled it out very frankly in all these negotiations; we did not keep any of it secret. Our action was clearly defined. The fundamental issues and principles on which the Jordanian policy is based in these negotiations do not change at all, namely our right to our occupied territories, our right to water, our right to demand a solution for the Palestinian refugees issue, and that no aggression is committed against us at all. This is our stand as Jordanians and is an absolutely Jordanian one. At the same time, we support with the same strength our Palestinian brothers' stand against deportations from the Palestinian territories and their demand for solving the refugees problem, which concerns them, too, and for implementing all aspects of Resolutions 242 and 338. The implementation means withdrawal from the occupied territories and the principle of peace for everybody. Our stand is that we will not reach a unilateral solution without our Palestinian brothers.

Our stand as Jordanians with our Arab brothers is to demand persistently the implementation of Resolution 242 in all its aspects and on all tracks and that we will not

go for a unilateral solution without them. That was what we could do in all the 10 rounds. Of course, we reached an agenda during the eighth and ninth rounds. This agenda includes the fundamental bases of the negotiations. Having reached this point, we declared that we cannot go beyond it if the other tracks do not make progress.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] If we stop at the Jordanian track, what can we say?

[Al-Majali] We have always stressed during our efforts on the Jordanian track that the Palestinian track is completely different from the Jordanian-Israeli one.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali. There is a proposal to form or set up a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. What is Jordan's stand on such a confederation?

[Al-Majali] These ideas are always under discussion. You are aware of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship before the 1967 occupation and of the proposals made since then. We believe in the Palestinian brothers' freedom to determine their own fate. When they attain self-determination and express whatever they desire, then we in Jordan are ready to discuss with them any type of relationship, whether a confederation, a federation, or any other relationship between the two sides. But to forestall things now and allow ourselves—when we are a state but they have not attained statehood yet—to impose this is not right and we do not permit ourselves to impose any type of relationship on the Palestinian brothers.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] But the Palestinians welcome the establishment of a confederation with you?

[Al-Majali] When the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories get the freedom to say so, then the Jordanian people will welcome the creation of any relationship that is good for both sides.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] After nine rounds of peace talks you assumed the post of prime minister. From your experience in negotiations with Israel and diplomatic knowledge, what are your expectations of the future of negotiations with Israel?

[Al-Majali] I am optimistic by nature. Since I have assumed responsible posts for more than 45 years, I have been optimistic even in ordinary matters. I believe in the adage that says be optimistic and you will not be disappointed. We hope to reach good results. However, I believe that the international circumstances require a permanent and just peace in the region. I believe that we must all take advantage of this opportunity of international will to reach a peaceful, comprehensive, and fair solution. The Israeli and Arab parties have their own views, and this is called negotiations. When one negotiates one must be clear. This is not a military battle involving a winner and a loser. This is a battle of peace, which is different from one of war. Therefore, the

negotiator tries to convince the other party of the benefits of peace so that it can opt for peace and regain rights. We maintain that peace is not capitulation. Peace requires that one regains his rights and agrees to a formula, whereas capitulation entails giving one's rights to others.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] A U.S. delegation led by Dennis Ross, general coordinator for the Arab-Israeli negotiations, is currently touring the Middle East. What is your view of the current U.S. position?

[Al-Majali] I have met with Ross and his accompanying delegation members. He affirmed to us, as President Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher did to His Majesty King Husayn when he visited the United States, that they will personally do all they can to render the peace process successful. They even told his majesty that 1993 must be the year of peace in the Middle East. Of course we cannot achieve everything this year, but at least define the main overtures of peace. The Americans are serious and had they not been serious they would not have made this tour and efforts. We cannot rush things. We must be patient because this issue is complicated and is several decades old. So it cannot be resolved in one, two, or even 10 rounds. It needs patience, effort, realization, and primarily complete cooperation among the Arab parties concerned. In addition, the people should stand behind their delegations so that they can obtain their rights.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, we thank you very much and always welcome you on the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Majali] We thank the Voice of the Arabs for giving us this opportunity to answer your questions.

Editorials View U.S. Role, Efforts in Peace Process

Role, Proposals to Palestinians Criticized

JN1007083893 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Jul 93
pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "Partial Partner"]

[Text] Despite Washington's repeated assertions that it adheres to the role of a "full and impartial partner" in the Arab-Israeli talks, the outcome of the 10th round of these talks and the unceasing U.S. contacts with all the parties concerned—an outcome embodied in the U.S. plan for the Palestinian track—indicates that the U.S. role in the peace process has been transformed from an impartial partner and sponsor into a biased partner in Israel's favor.

Yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said that his country will play an effective role as an honest broker to make the parties concerned face the question of whether or not they are concerned with the

peace process and whether they are planning to overcome their differences. These remarks are apparently a reiteration of the recent U.S. warnings and are intended to compel the Arab side, particularly the Palestinians, to submit to the U.S.-Israeli conditions. It would have been more appropriate for this honest partner to clearly name those responsible for the failure of 10 rounds of talks and to adhere to the terms of reference of the peace process, the legitimate international resolutions, and the U.S. letters of assurance at the beginning of the peace process.

The recent U.S. document has adopted the Israeli views concerning territorial jurisdiction and the Jerusalem issue and asked that the discussion of these two points be postponed until the final phase. The United States has ignored the fact that the Arabs and Palestinians have the right to clear answers on the terms of reference on whose basis the Madrid conference was convened. The U.S. Administration must prove its credibility and partnership by persuading Israel that peace cannot be realized by intransigence and deception or by interpreting the UN resolutions in Israel's own way.

Doubling of Diplomatic Efforts Urged

JN1107131193 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
11 Jul 93 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "The Military Escalation and the Peace Efforts"]

[Text] The continued military escalation in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and southern Lebanon, and the accompanying shedding of much blood, reveal the essence of the current Middle East situation. The situation is serious. It could ignite the Middle East powder keg once the spark is lit.

Such escalation stresses the importance of taking action to achieve peace in this highly inflammable region. It emphasizes the need to consider the time factor that is working against the peace process, threatening to erode it.

This military escalation stresses the importance of the current diplomatic efforts of Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator of the peace process, who continues to tour the region's capitals, holding talks with the parties concerned in order to speed up the peace process, urging all parties to agree on practical and acceptable bases with a view to achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Therefore, the heavy smoke bellowing from the occupied territories now constitutes a broad background for the U.S. envoy's mission in the region. It illustrates the gravity of the potential risks in the Middle East if the peace process retreats and if the parties concerned with the peace negotiations find themselves facing a deadlock.

Given all this, we urge the U.S. envoy, who is touring the regional capitals involved in the ongoing conflict, to contemplate the outcome if peace negotiations fail, as

well as the possible serious repercussions if diplomatic efforts cease. Such repercussions could drag the region into another wide confrontation, especially if Israel explodes the entire situation and undermines the fragile ground on which the peace process is built.

The vitality of the special U.S. role is evident. Also evident is the importance of current U.S. diplomatic efforts to bridge the gap between the parties to the peace process. This prompts us to urge the United States to double its diplomatic efforts to remove the obstacles Israel placed on the path of peace and to encourage the Rabin government not to waste this opportunity, so the aspired peace can be realized in the Middle East.

Failure Said 'Chasing' Ross Tour

*JN1207114893 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
12 Jul 93 pp 1, 28*

[Editorial: "Signs of Failure Are Chasing Dennis Ross"]

[Text] The results of the tour of Dennis Ross, the U.S. coordinator of Middle East negotiations, are obvious even before the end of his tour of the countries concerned with the peace negotiations. It seems that failure, which has chased all efforts made in connection with the peace process, has begun to chase the U.S. envoy's tour.

Initial signs from Dennis Ross' talks with most parties to the peace process have shown that the U.S. coordinator of negotiations has failed to make Israel accept substantive amendments to the draft declaration of principles proposed on the Palestinian track. This could stall the peace negotiations, which could lead to the collapse of the entire peace process.

Dennis Ross' mission, which came in the wake of a futile round of Arab-Israeli bilateral negotiations, was expected to entail new ideas and proposals that would remove many shortcomings in the proposed declaration of principles, so such ideas and proposals would conform with both the Security Council resolutions and the U.S. invitation to hold the peace talks, and would also be acceptable to the Arab negotiators, particularly the Palestinian side.

The initial results of Dennis Ross' tour indicate that the U.S. coordinator has thus far been unable to clarify the proposed declaration of principles. This declaration excludes Jerusalem, does not define the geographic jurisdiction of the Palestinian self-rule, and greatly reduces the Palestinian self-rule authority. It also gives Israel enough time to make profound changes in the holy city's status.

In view of all this, we, while receiving the U.S. negotiator of Middle East negotiations with great concern and dissatisfaction regarding the unreassuring results of his current tour, still hope the U.S. Administration will put sufficient pressure on the Israeli side to make it comply with both the Security Council resolutions and the terms of reference of the peace process. We also hope that the

United States will show more seriousness in dealing with the current situation in a way conforming with its declared pledge to play a full partner role in the peace process.

U.S. Urged To Take Initiative on Proposal

*JN1307131193 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
13 Jul 93 pp 1, 16*

[Editorial: "The Crown Prince, the Regent, Emphasizes the Constants of the Jordanian Stand"]

[Text] The principled constants of the Jordanian stand on the peace process highlighted the Jordanian-U.S. talks. Upon receiving the U.S. delegation, headed by Dennis Ross, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, emphasized these constants as they represent the main bases for Jordan's participation in the peace process ever since it started.

Moreover, Prime Minister Dr. al-Majali verified things to the U.S. delegation when, on the one hand, he called for direct negotiations with the PLO, in its capacity as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and when, on the other hand, he called for transferring to the PLO all powers over the self-rule area. He stressed that Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories—based on international legitimacy resolutions—would enhance the credibilities of both the international organization and U.S. Administration.

Dr. al-Majali's call for a comprehensive activation of the negotiations on all fronts based on Resolutions 242 and 338 is a clear and frank emphasis on Jordan's rejection of dividing the peace process and striking separate agreements. Hence, Jordan emphasized its true, sincere, and brave commitment to the bases of coordination with the Palestinian brothers and the other Arab parties.

This is especially so since Jordanian-Palestinian coordination, after forming the joint higher committee and the committee's agreement to reinforce the existing and future relations between the two fraternal people, requires Jordan to support the Palestinian stand and the negotiating Palestinian delegation's efforts to solve the issues of Jerusalem and geographic jurisdiction and to restore the Palestinian people's national rights, headed by their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state in their homeland.

In any case, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, and Prime Minister Dr. al-Majali briefed the U.S. delegation on the Jordanian stand and Jordan's viewpoint on the contents of the proposed U.S. formula on Palestinian self-rule, especially regarding the issues of Jerusalem and Palestinian geographic jurisdiction. This stipulates making the necessary amendments to the U.S. formula so that it would include logical and satisfactory solutions based on international legitimacy resolutions that deal with the issues of Jerusalem and geographic jurisdiction.

Moreover, if it wants to push the negotiations toward success, the U.S. Administration should take the initiative to make these inevitable amendments.

Paper on U.S. 'Unjust Policy' on Iraq, 'Double Standards'

JN1107085893 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
11 Jul 93 p 1

[Editorial: "Why Threaten Iraq With a New Aggression?"]

[Text] It seems that the U.S. Administration still harbors aggressive intentions toward fraternal Iraq, because it still cites untrue and illegitimate reasons and justifications for dealing fresh blows to Iraq.

Iraq has fully complied with the Security Council resolutions. It has also cooperated with the UN inspection teams and offered them all the necessary facilities for them to accomplish their missions in implementation of both the resolutions of international legitimacy and the illegitimate U.S. decisions. The U.S. Administration, however, intends to inflict further destruction and damage on Iraq and its civilian institutions and more harm on the proud and steadfast Iraqi people. This, in itself, constitutes deliberate injustice and arbitrary conduct by the United States against the Iraqi people.

Rather than appreciating Iraq's cooperation with the United Nations and its teams and bodies as well as Iraq's full compliance with the Security Council resolutions, further pressure is being put on Iraq, and further evil is harbored against it.

Iraq continuously calls for normal relations with the U.S. Administration based on cooperation and mutual respect. Such calls, however, do not receive any favorable response from Washington.

This unjust policy by the U.S. Administration and its allies against Iraq evokes the astonishment, disapproval, and denunciation of the Arab, Islamic, and world public opinions, especially since the U.S. Administration still ignores the Serbian aggression on Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, turning a blind eye to the Serbs' disavowal and disregard of the Security Council resolutions. This clearly affirms U.S. double standards, and proves that the U.S. Administration deals with regional issues and conflicts according to several standards in line with its interests, desires, intentions, and unjust positions.

It is high time for the Security Council to release Iraq and lift the unjust embargo after it has complied with all Security Council resolutions, so this Council's credibility and legitimacy will be preserved before the international community.

It is also high time for the Arab and Islamic countries to take a just position on the great injustice being done to 18 million Arab Muslims, and to do their best to prevent any premeditated U.S. aggression against Iraq.

U.S. To 'Follow Up' on Sanctions Enforcement Complaints

JN1007200793 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
10 Jul 93 p 1

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman—Washington has promised to follow up on Jordan's complaints that over-zealous enforcement of the international sanctions against Iraq was hurting the Kingdom's economy, a senior official said Friday [9 July].

Jordan raised the issue during the visit of His Majesty King Husayn to the U.S. last month and appealed for relaxed inspection of ships bound for al-'Aqabah, and American officials promised that "they will look into it," said Jawad al-'Anani, minister of state for Prime Ministry Affairs.

Jordan registered its concern that the strict enforcement of the sanctions was hurting its own economy since cargo bound for the Jordanian market was also subject to the inspections, carried out in the Red Sea at the mouth of the Gulf of al-'Aqabah by American-led warships, Dr. al-'Anani told the JORDAN TIMES.

Shipping agents and importers complain that the guidelines for shipping such as documentation and cargo stowage and accessibility for inspection cause delays and make Jordanian imports more expensive.

As a result of the strict enforcement of the guidelines, the flow of Iraqi-goods permitted under the international sanctions has also trickled, further inflicting losses to the port and transport sector.

The standard American reply to repeated Jordanian complaints over the issue was that as long as shippers and shipping agents as well as vessels abide by the guidelines there is little chance of Jordan-bound cargo being refused to the Gulf of al-'Aqabah.

But shipping agents say that in many cases ships fall victim to the whims of officers aboard the enforcement vessels even after meeting every guideline set by the inspectors.

In general terms, Washington now acknowledges that Jordan, which was once accused of sanction-busting, is enforcing the sanctions, a conviction reaffirmed by State Department spokesman John Snyder Thursday.

"There have been problems in the past; but we think Jordan moved to correct problems that we have seen in the past and that yes, Jordan is basically complying with the U.N. resolutions" which imposed the sanctions against Iraq following its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, Mr. Snyder told reporters Thursday.

The spokesman said he was not aware of a report carried by Reuters from Amman that Washington had rejected a

Jordanian request to relax the American-led inspection of al-'Aqabah-bound vessels by warships patrolling the Red Sea.

"All what we got from the U.S. to our request was flat no," the news agency quoted an unidentified official as saying. "Among the reasons they cited was that such a move will give a wrong signal to Iraq."

Dr. al-'Anani indirectly confirmed that Washington was demanding stricter Jordanian controls on goods entering Iraq and more information on trade with Iraq as well as details of companies dealing with Iraq.

"They (the U.S.) always want us to do more despite our strict enforcement of the sanctions as acknowledged by senior administration officials," the minister said when asked whether the U.S. had made these demands on Jordan.

In addition to demanding these details from Jordan, American officials also complained of "increased corruption both sides" of the Jordanian-Iraqi border and weakening border controls, Reuter reported.

Jordan told the U.S. that the sanctions enforcement was also hurting the Kingdom's vital exporter of its phosphates and potash and other goods since freight surcharges imposed by shipping companies as a result of the delays caused by the inspection in the Red Sea, Dr. al-'Anani said.

"It is as if we are being penalised," he said, echoing a long-held Jordanian view. "Or are we under sanctions ourselves?"

Delegation Voices Reservations About Tunis Multilaterals

JN1007151993 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
10 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, who is also head of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, said Thursday [8 July] the Arab delegations participating in the third meeting of the steering committee of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process which concluded in Moscow Wednesday reiterated their principled stands as they did in previous meetings.

Dr. al-Tarawinah said the Jordanian delegation expressed reservations about holding the meetings of the multilateral talks on refugees in Tunis based on Jordan's conviction since all Arab countries are involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Tunisia is party to the conflict and cannot host such meetings.

"We prefer that this meeting and another hosted by Egypt be held in another neutral state, but Arab delegations participating in the meetings did not express an opposing view," he said.

"Our delegation stressed its reservation at the meeting, and warned Arab brethren of the outcome of such a precedent," he added.

The Arab states participating in the peace process, Dr. al-Tarawinah said, are continuing their coordination meetings at all levels.

He said the Jordanian delegation had in all the bilateral and multilateral meetings called for a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem on the basis of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

His Majesty King Husayn has expressed this principle during his talks with U.S. officials in Washington recently, he said, adding: "I think U.S. circles now have become more understanding of Jordan's position, whether on the Middle East peace process or on its relations with its sister Arab states."

The chief Jordanian negotiator expressed his belief that the peace process is a long and complicated one, saying manoeuvres by the Israelis emerge now and then with the aim of obstructing progress in the talks. These manoeuvres aim to force the Arab parties to quit the negotiating table, but the Arabs are aware of these attempts, he said.

Dr. al-Tarawinah voiced hope that Russia would play a more active role in the process as a co-sponsor and said the internal situation in Russia should not affect its role in finding a settlement of the Middle East peace process.

'Unsatisfactory' Lower House Performance Criticized

JN1007182193 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
10 Jul 93 p 3

[By Sa'idah Kilani]

[Text] Amman—Members of the Lower House of Parliament Thursday described the House's four-year performance as unsatisfactory, attributing what some deputies called its "failure to rise up to the expectations" to the House's reconciliatory attitude towards the government.

Five deputies out of six contended in a seminar held at 'Abd-al Hamid Shuman Foundation that the House failed to perform its role due to lack of democratic practices in the country, with some claiming that the House itself is undemocratic in structure and government-oriented in policy.

"Our status now is characterised by fear of the government," said Islamist deputy Layth Shubaylat. "One can assess the House's accomplishments at present in comparison with slogans raised (four years ago)... Where are we now from the slogan 'no for peace and submission'?... "Peace talks are continuing and agreements are already prepared," Mr. Shubaylat said. "And I think the next House will also approve them," he said.

Deputy Bassam Haddadin said that it was the House's fault in the first place to give the vote of confidence to pro-peace talks governments. He said that the House's direction towards serving the government's interests originated in the fact that "it is essentially based on an undemocratic law that does not reflect the society's interests, aspirations and formation, but expresses the social and political interests of the government. [quotation marks as published]

At the economic level, Mr. Haddadin said that the legislature has given its blessings to the country's financial policies although they are in line with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) policies.

"The House approved these policies, disregarding the serious economic implications on society, such as unemployment," Mr. Haddadin said.

Two other deputies, Husni al-Shayyab and Tahir al-Masri, attributed the House's "failure to perform its role properly" to the manner in which it is functioning and to the lack of communication among deputies themselves.

Mr. al-Masri, the former prime minister, said that each draft law, for example, was handed to a specialised committee for study and then referred to the House. The draft law is however studied and discussed again by deputies.

"The time is wasted for nothing, and the draft law is discussed once again in detail as if it were not studied by the specialised committee," said Mr. al-Masri.

Deputy al-Shayyab attributed what he called the House's inappropriate functioning to the absence of unified stands by parliamentary blocs or groups.

"Different opinions come out sometimes from the same bloc," Mr. al-Shayyab said. "Inside the House, there is a noticeable lack of communication and dialogue."

According to Mr. Haddadin's classification, the House consists of three blocs: Conservative, Islamic and democrats. The two latter blocs, according to Mr. Haddadin, are not harmonious in stand and policy.

"In each issue raised in the House, the conservative bloc succeeded in attracting one of the two blocs to its side," he said.

Mr. Haddadin's analysis sparked an angry response from Islamic Deputy 'Abd-al-Hafiz 'Allawi who strongly defended the Islamic bloc, and indirectly accused other parties and groups in the country of weakness.

"I refuse to accept the (accusation) of some that the Islamic bloc is not unified," he said. "Those who have houses of glass do not throw stones on people," he added.

Mr. Haddadin also criticized the parliament's "inefficient role in monitoring the performance of the executive authority" and pointed out that most of the complaints filed against the execution authority are often related to procedural issues.

Awqaf Ministry Urged Not To Allow 'Politicians' To Preach

JN1107112293 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
11 Jul 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Worship Above Politics"]

[Text] On Thursday [8 July], the minister of Awqaf and Islamic affairs urged mosque preachers to remain neutral as far as politics is concerned and to limit their sermons to explaining Islam to worshippers. Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-'Abbadi told preachers that they should not take sides with political factions and should promote dialogue among all people and groups in society. The minister was stressing the role of the mosque as a meeting place for all Muslims of different shades of opinion. The clear message was that, in an era of democracy and political pluralism, and in an age of uncertainty and search for identity and solutions to earthly problems, the mosque should play a more constructive role in advocating peaceful debate and tolerance among all citizens of this country.

But Thursday quickly gave way to Friday, on which day the list of mosque preachers in Amman showed that at least half a dozen were leading political figures, mainly Islamist deputies. One of course does not expect non-Islamists to preach at our mosques, but the hope has always been that no single party, least of all political, should have an edge over other parties at houses of worship.

There have been complaints recently that mosque preachers and speakers have used the pulpit to attack or demean certain political parties or groups. This places the mosque, the most frequented place, on one side of the political spectrum extending support to one side and withholding it from other Muslims. Minister al-'Abbadi was conspicuously less explicit on this point but he still warned that "the sanctity of the mosques should not be harmed by any one or used to serve any personal or factional goals."

Now that elections have been set for November this year, the campaign which will start in earnest, cannot, by law, be conducted in houses of worship, be they mosques or churches. Words uttered in those places have to not only cleanse our souls of earthly matters and petty rivalries. They have to encourage leaving politics to be practised by politicians in political houses and arenas.

It is, therefore, the responsibility of the state to ensure that the message that emanates from the mosque is pious, wise and tolerant. Especially at this crucial time in our history, mosques and churches should not serve to favour one political faction over the other or take sides.

Hence politicians and political activists should not be allowed to make use of the fact that they can reach the pulpit and others cannot. Minister al-'Abbadi needs to do more than preach to preachers; he should make sure that the list of preachers that his ministry releases every

Friday does not include politicians of any sort. This would leave places of worship free from electioneering and guarantee that politicians are seen as such and operating within their proper and legal context in society.

Samahah: Success of Ross Trip Depends on Compromise

PM1307133693 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jul 93 p 5

[Interview with Information Minister Michel Samahah by Sawzan Abu-Husayn in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [Abu-Husayn] Do you expect the U.S. delegation's mission in the region to succeed?

[Samahah] I believe that the U.S. delegation's visit to the region could be merely a fact-finding visit, unless the U.S. coordinator offers practical solutions to bring views closer among the negotiating parties. This is an extremely important question in order for the 11th round of negotiations to begin in an atmosphere that inspires optimism. And as the Arab decision is still that it is necessary to negotiate and to engage in a serious and useful dialogue for the sake of establishing peace, the United States must play the role that it has declared on several occasions, namely that it is a full partner in the peace negotiations. We also reemphasize the need for any U.S. solutions to proceed from the foundations listed in the invitation letter to the Madrid conference.

We also want clear assurances and practical steps vis-a-vis the endorsement of the peace negotiations' foundations, which proceed from UN resolutions, so that Israel will not ignore all international initiatives as though it means to perpetuate current criticisms in relation to measuring the initiatives concerning Arab rights by a different yardstick from that used in the case of resolutions related to other regions.

[Abu-Husayn] Do you believe that the U.S. delegation's visit to the region is designed to explore opinions and is expected to be followed by a visit by U.S. Secretary of State Christopher to complete the talks on the future of the peace process in the region?

[Samahah] That could be true. And as I said, I believe that the success of Dennis Ross' visit depends on the compromises he is going to offer. As for Christopher's visit, it depends on the U.S. decision, in order to achieve complete agreement and to discuss some of the details concerning the substance of the 11th round.

Nevertheless, I am very worried that procrastination could continue. The Israeli delegation might not be ready and may want to keep us trapped in the circle of hope at the beginning of the round and disappointment at the end of it, to work constantly to split the unity of ranks among the cordon states and to give the impression that it wants progress to be made on one track to the exclusion of another.

[Abu-Husayn] And what about the nature of your meeting with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, is it linked with the contacts made a few days ago between the two countries' foreign ministers?

[Samahah] I met with the Egyptian foreign minister within the framework of the desire to maintain coordination to serve joint Arab action and to discuss the latest developments in the situation in the region.

[Abu-Husayn] It has been noted that all U.S. State Department officials' tours of the region do not include Lebanon. What is the reason? Does it have to do with the Israeli Government's announcement that Lebanon is not in control of its own affairs?

[Samahah] We do not believe that the Israeli Government speaks in the U.S. Administration's name. Their negotiating delegation is present with the Lebanese delegation in the negotiating room on the [Lebanese-Israeli] track. If they believe otherwise, let the Rabin government withdraw its delegation from the negotiations with Lebanon. We do not negotiate with anyone who does not believe that we are in control of our territory and our decisionmaking. Lebanese sovereignty is impaired by nothing but Israel's occupation of part of our territory. We are a full member of the United Nations and act on this basis, and we are entitled to conclude special agreements with the Arab states, to whose league we belong. In particular, we mean Syria, which supported us in our predicament. Thus if Israel is constantly attacking us because of our agreement with Syria, we will not establish relations with our enemies, but, rather, negotiate to recover our rights. Even after Resolution 425 has been implemented, we will remain with the Arab team to represent the final stage of the peace negotiations.

[Abu-Husayn] But Lebanese-U.S. relations are experiencing a state of coolness as a result of the U.S. Congress resolution hinting at the Syrian Army's withdrawal from Lebanon as a step toward implementing Resolution 425.

[Samahah] The U.S. Congress is one thing, and the U.S. Administration's decisions are another. I would like to remind the U.S. Congress that it is dealing with Lebanon as an independent, sovereign state, not as one of the American states. At any rate, the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies replied to this resolution in a statement it issued last week. We will not allow Congress or anyone else to interfere in Lebanon's affairs or to obstruct the development and rebuilding process in it.

[Abu-Husayn] But it seems that the implementation of Resolution 425 depends on the Syrian Army's withdrawal from Lebanon. What if U.S.-Israeli pressures are exerted in this connection? Would your government agree?

[Samahah] What governs our relationship with Syria falls within a different framework from what is happening in the relationship with Israel. We are with Syria in one and the same Arab position to confront the Israeli occupation. We are with Syria in a legal and brotherly relationship within the framework of the cooperation and coordination agreement. We can never in any way compare the legitimate Syrian presence to the Israeli occupation of part of Lebanon's territory.

[Abu-Husayn] What is the meaning of Lebanon's request to join the Damascus declaration states at this particular time?

[Samahah] It is natural for Lebanon to submit that request in order to participate with the Damascus declaration states in forming a circle capable of safeguarding Arab rights in the Arab east and the Arabian Gulf.

Shammas Returns, Comments on Peace Talks, Clashes

NC1107062293 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Statement by Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, head of the delegation to the peace negotiations with Israel, on his return to Beirut from France on 10 July—recorded]

[Text] Any judgment on whether a round of talks has failed or not made progress relies on looking at the substance of that round of talks. We are primarily concerned with continuing the peace process, not for its own sake, but for the sake of reaching the results hoped for when the Madrid conference was held. The negotiations are difficult and complicated, and the issues tackled are deep-rooted, diverse, and require some time. It is very important [words indistinct].

On the Lebanese track, the Israeli side submitted a new paper on the last day of the talks. It was immediately sent to the officials in Beirut, who are now studying it. The negotiating delegation has also studied it in depth. I will discuss it with the senior officials when I have an opportunity to meet them. In view of considerations that are connected with the negotiations, we ought to keep silent until the officials make their decision.

We have a view that we will present to the officials. I believe my view is the same as that of the officials who have given us instructions and guidance. We know what they think.

We believe the Israeli escalation and the events in the south stem from the continuing Israeli occupation of parts of Lebanon that are dear to us. Particular incidents are expected to continue as long as this occupation continues. The incidents are the consequence of confronting this occupation.

Birri on South, U.S. Stance, Palestinian Presence

NC1107070493 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri believes the escalation in the south is the other side of the campaign with which the U.S. Congress surprised Lebanon. He said big things are being prepared against Lebanon and that the meeting held in the Marj 'Uyun barracks in the presence of Yitzhaq Rabin was not something normal.

Birri said Israel's scorched-earth policy against the south is worse than the expansion of the occupied border strip. He drew attention to the process of the Judaization of the occupied villages and tying them to the Israeli economic cycle.

Speaking at an expanded meeting with reporters in al-Musaylih yesterday, Birri said the American partnership in the peace talks is one-sided. He said the two papers Israel presented to Lebanon during the talks mentioned nothing about a role for the international forces. He said that the 10th round focused on Resolution 425 and the resistance and that the Israelis presented the paper to the Lebanese delegation just 10 minutes before the round concluded, saying that a plane was waiting at the airport. But, he added, Ambassador Shammas realized this was a game and said: Let us leave before you this time.

Birri explained that the new paper differs from the previous one only in appearance. Reiterating his objection to negotiations, he said he had to respect the views of the majority who agreed to engage in the negotiations. What counts now is to develop an all-embracing national immunity and to maintain our position, he emphasized.

Asked whether Lebanon can pull out of the talks, Birri remarked that it is not one of the Chamber of Deputies' powers to consider this issue, which requires an in-depth discussion.

Commenting on the stance recently announced by Congress, which called for the redeployment of the Syrian Army, Birri said: It is up to the Lebanese to decide whether they need the Syrians. Lebanon is being subjected to many hazards and it needs Syria, regardless of the geographic and historic ties and the brotherhood, cooperation, and coordination agreement. He asked: Could Lebanon have withstood the results of negotiations if Syria had not been on its side?

Commenting on the Congress' stance on the Chamber of Deputies, Birri asked: Didn't the Americans support the parliamentary elections when they were held? I believe they did. The U.S. ambassador attended and blessed the election to the Chamber speakership. He asked: Why do they say that now?

Birri revealed that the U.S. ambassador explained that Congress' stance does not represent the policy of the U.S. Administration. Let the Americans agree on whether we are legitimate or not. Anyway, he added, we would not seek their opinion. Oddly enough, the Americans do not discuss the Israeli presence, as though the daily attacks on the south and the cutting of water and electricity do not count in the American policy, he said.

Asked about the Palestinian deployment in al-Na'imah and Ahmad Jibril's presence in Sidon, the speaker said: We are against this. But, he added, we should attach more importance to Rabin's presence in Marj 'Uyun, because it is part of Lebanon. [passage omitted]

SLA Commander Warns of 'Harsh' Retaliation for Attacks

JN1207204193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Report carried within "With the Events" feature]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with our show, Southern Lebanese Army (SLA) Commander Staff Major General Antoine Lahd has held Syria responsible for what is taking place in southern Lebanon. He made the statements to Iyal 'Alim, our correspondent for military affairs.

[Begin recording] ['Alim] SLA Commander Staff Maj. Gen. Antoine Lahd has confirmed that the retaliation for the terrorist operations being carried out by Hizballah and Palestinian factions this time will be harsh. He expressed the belief that the recent tension in southern Lebanon is caused by the anti-peace attitude of these organizations.

[Lahd] The reasons for this tension are numerous. The first reason is that Hizballah, the Palestinian factions, and some extremist Lebanese parties believe that the peace negotiations should be rejected. They continue to believe that Israel does not have the right to exist in what they call Palestine. These factors have contributed to an increase in the number of operations in the area.

['Alim] The SLA commander held Syria responsible for the escalating tension in southern Lebanon. He also urged the Lebanese Government to halt its support for the terrorist organizations that are using Lebanese territory as a springboard for carrying out terrorist operations in the security strip and northern Israel.

[Lahd] On this occasion, I would like to draw the attention of the Lebanese Government to the fact that if it fails to put an end to the activities of the so-called resistance, the retaliation this time will be harsh. Moreover, Lebanon, and not only the Palestinian factions and Hizballah, will pay the price. Moreover, I would like to draw the Syrians' attention to the fact that if they deem the so-called resistance necessary, then they must focus their efforts in this regard on the Golan. They should not allow operations on Lebanese territory.

['Alim] Lahd spoke of the concern of the population in the security strip.

[Lahd] The people in the security strip are concerned over the situation, because they are paying a price for all this. Our retaliation, as well as the retaliation of the Israeli Defense Force, did not measure up to the intensity of the so-called resistance operations in the past. Adequate retaliation is required to deter these people who are carrying out terrorist operations. Their situation is characterized by extreme concern. It is exactly like the situation of the residents of northern Israel.

['Alim] News reports speak of residents outside the security strip fleeing their homes.

[Lahd] Thus far, some party officials might have fled their homes. I believe that retaliation this time will be harsh, and that the people in the north of the security strip, as well as Lebanon, will pay a price for this. It will not only be Hizballah, Ahmad Jibril's organization, or some organizations with ulterior motives that will pay a price this time. [end recording]

Hizballah, PFLP-GC Discuss 'Zionist Threats'

NC1007082693 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Developments in the south were at the center of talks held by Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah and Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC). Nasrallah received Jibril at the head of a PFLP-GC delegation at 2200 yesterday in the presence of Hizballah Political Bureau Chairman Hajj Husayn Khalil.

They discussed ways to confront the latest Zionist threats and coordination between Hizballah and the PFLP-GC. They also touched on the Arab-Israeli bilateral talks.

Interior Minister Criticizes U.S. Senate Resolution

JN1107094993 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Damascus, 11 Jul (SANA)—Lebanese Interior Minister Bisharah Mirhij has criticized the recent U.S. Senate decisions on Lebanon. These decisions, if implemented, would return Lebanon to civil war and anarchy, he said.

In a statement to TISHRIN published today, the Lebanese minister explained that these decisions deliberately ignore the articles of the al-Ta'if accord. This agreement stipulates that redeployment of the Syrian forces in Lebanon should be discussed by the Lebanese and Syrian Governments, and is within the competence and powers of the two governments and not the U.S. Senate.

Mirhij added: The U.S. Senate decisions were made in response to a request by the Zionist lobby in the United States. This lobby wants to use the Lebanese bargaining chip once again in order to blackmail and pressure the Arab negotiators, particularly the Syrian and Lebanese negotiators, with a view toward forcing them into yielding to the Israeli conditions in negotiations.

Concluding his statement, the Lebanese minister indicated that these decisions do not refer to the Israeli occupation army's withdrawal from Lebanon, while calling for disarming the militant Lebanese resistance.

Phalangist Leader Denounces U.S. Senate Decision*JN1207122693 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Text] Damascus, 12 Jul (SANA)—Dr. George Sa'adah, leader of the Lebanese Phalangist Party, has denounced the U.S. Senate decision on Lebanon, regarding it as interference in both Lebanese internal affairs and the distinguished Syrian-Lebanese relations.

In an exclusive statement to TISHRIN published today, Dr. Sa'adah said: We will not allow any state, regardless of its status, to strike at the relations agreed by the two fraternal countries, Lebanon and Syria.

He asserted that Lebanon is an independent country, and that its political leadership knows well how to establish bilateral relations with all states, particularly with such a sisterly state as Syria. In the national accord document, it was agreed that relations with Syria should be distinguished, he added.

Liberal Party Leader Comments on Decision*PM0907113693 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 8 Jul 93 p 3*

[Ali al-Ruzz report: "Sham'un Tells AL-HAYAH: Congress Decision U.S. Attempt To 'Correct Firing Aim'"]

[Text] London—[Lebanese] National Liberal Party leader Dory Sham'un has said that the U.S. Senate's decision on Lebanon "is an attempt to correct the firing aim." In a statement to AL-HAYAH, he expressed his amazement at the oppositionist voices emanating "from people who would not have been able to have any presence in political life had it not been for the accord agreement sponsored, supported, and approved by the United States."

Sham'un said: "We are against any interference in Lebanese internal affairs by the United States or anyone else. But the funny and tragic thing in this case is that those who are expressing opposition today are the same ones who accepted U.S. intervention in the conclusion of the accord. They are in the forefront of political life today as a result of the agreement supported by the United States. When Congress urges the implementation of all the clauses of the agreement the 'agitated ones' become furious and consider the matter interference in internal affairs. They do what they want."

He added: "Legally, the U.S. Senate did not interfere in internal issues, as it convened and made recommendations related to an agreement in which the United States had participated. It discovered that a number of points in the agreement—most importantly the Syrian forces' withdrawal and the parliamentary elections—had not been implemented in the required manner, so it urged that the situation be rectified."

Asked about the practical results he expects the decision to produce, he replied: "I do not know what will happen with regard to implementation. We found ourselves faced with similar decisions in the past, but they did not find their way to implementation. Will it be implemented in official policy? Will something specific be imposed on Syria? Will aid be suspended as demanded by the decision? Many questions which I believe are all a Syrian-U.S. affair."

He considered the decision "a Syrian-U.S. disagreement, not a Lebanese-U.S. disagreement, because the one expressing opposition in Lebanon is its master's voice. [sentence as published] I personally am not very optimistic about these matters, because unfortunately, changes in U.S. policy travel faster than the speed of light sometimes."

He said: "The decision is not issued by the government. It is a kindness from the Senate, thus it does not have the force of a resolution. We have to watch the implementation when the administration espouses it. I do not believe that U.S. policy has changed much from what it used to be during President George Bush's term."

He also said that he does not believe the peace negotiations are useful. "We have no powers in them, nor can we make a decision for peace or war. I do not think we can wait for the peace issue to build a homeland. We have been waiting since 1984 and could wait for another 45 years. We can repulse the Israeli harm if we agree inside the country on the need to implement the truce decision signed in 1984, not to allow a single bullet to be fired on Israel from our southern border, and to separate the Lebanon issue and our interests as Lebanese from the Palestinian issue, whose owners always work for their interests. Let us unite for once over our interests, which, in my opinion, are more important than all international and regional resolutions." He believes that Lebanon "is at present split into groups: one giving priority to Lebanon's interests over any other interests and another working for non-Lebanese interests...."

He concluded by saying, "Among the reasons for our rejection of the accord agreement is that Syria could one day evade any of its commitments under the agreement on the basis that it is not concerned with it, did not sign it, and was present in Lebanon before the agreement. Thus I believe that the Senate's decision is an attempt to correct the firing aim, because in the previous period the firing was aimed at targets that do not serve Lebanon's interests."

Pro-'Awn Movement Welcomes U.S. Senate Stand*NC1207170993 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 7 Jul 93 p 6*

[Text] The pro-'Awn [former army commander General Michel 'Awn] "13 November Movement" has welcomed the U.S. Senate's stand calling for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon and considering the parliamentary elections unfair. The group said this decision represents "a fruit of our people's steadfastness and their

struggle on all levels." It thanked the U.S. Senate for its stand. It also thanked whoever works for promoting Lebanon's cause.

Columnist Criticizes U.S. Senate Resolution

PM0907152093 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 8 Jul 93
p 17

[Column by 'Abd-al-Wahhab Badrakhan: "Tragedy-Farce"]

[Text] There could be nothing worse than the U.S. Senate resolution on Lebanon except the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies resolution in reply to it. It is almost a declared state of war between the Senate and the Chamber. It could turn into an undeclared state of war between the two countries which the "generals" of the Lebanese Chamber did not hesitate to fan and kindle. Although the Lebanese foreign minister urged his colleagues, the deputies, to ease the severity of their resolution, reports do not indicate that his U.S. opposite number tried to moderate the Senate's resolution.

Of course, the U.S. Senate is criticized for forgetting—deliberately—the issue of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. In fact it stupidly failed to consider this occupation part of the strange situation in Lebanon. This loophole in the resolution must have harmed its credibility and deprived it of any claim to objectivity or goodwill toward Lebanon and its cause. This proves—once again—that U.S. handling, with an Israeli mentality, of any Middle Eastern crisis does more harm than good. The justifications for the Syrian presence in Lebanon remain parallel to the justifications usually provided for the Israeli occupation. And it has become certain, in view of the course of the bilateral negotiations, that Washington supports and blesses this occupation. It has also become clear that it agrees to this presence.

The 11 points included in the U.S. Senate's resolution—and the 12th point should have been allocated to the Israeli occupation of the south for the sake of balance—are based on a reading of the Lebanese situation which deserves attention. The reason is simple: This resolution is expected to form a major part of U.S. policy on Lebanon or constitute guidelines which President Bill Clinton's administration could use or add harsher points to. How did the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies reply to this reading? The reply was denouncement, rejection, and insistence on the present erroneous method of implementing the al-Ta'if accord.

Fortunately, no buttons have been pushed so far, except for members of the Chamber of Deputies to attack the U.S. Senate, sparing the Lebanese Government this embarrassing task as though the government is not concerned with what was mentioned and what was ignored in the U.S. resolution, or as though the government is required to remain unconcerned with the resolution. Or as though the government wishes to remain unconcerned, without any reason for this.

The cry of disapproval launched by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies against "interference in internal affairs" by the U.S. senators is both funny and tragic. This is because this rejection of "interference" for the sake of accepting another "interference" means nothing except an insult to the Lebanese people's intelligence and another proof of the correctness of what was mentioned in the U.S. resolution about "the not impartial elections" whose "results do not reflect the real and full representation of all the political forces." The Lebanese did not need the senators to see this fact.

Point 2 of the U.S. resolution is also funny and tragic. Its text is as follows: "To bolster Lebanon's sovereignty, stability, and territorial integrity." Since its preoccupation with and involvement in Lebanon with the consent of those in the region who want this, Washington has never coupled these words with actions, or even a very few actions. Perhaps the senators' resolution, like any regional resolution, is seeking to gain access to the Lebanese arena and its issues to put pressure on Syria. This is a rotten U.S. policy for which Lebanon has paid a heavy price and which has brought nothing to Lebanon except disasters. Whenever there are clouds between the United States and Syria, it inevitably rains in Lebanon. It is not in Lebanon's interests to bear the burdens of others, as it has its own burdens and the burdens they [not further identified] have given to it through its war and their wars on its territory.

Maybe Lebanon has completely lost the opportunity to prevent others from using it as an arena for their confrontations, but it is entitled at least to reject this "job" and make its rejection a national aim. Perhaps getting rid of this strange situation requires the presence of politicians and rulers who are not run by "remote control." Even mobile toys acknowledge from time to time—even accidentally—that there is something wrong which must be rectified.

Fadlallah Says U.S. Trying To Create New Enemy

NC1107173293 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530
GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] 'Allamah al-Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has stated that the United States, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, is trying to create a new enemy to mobilize all its arrogance against that new enemy. He noted that there is a U.S. fundamentalism that is trying to eliminate the others, but he denied the existence of Islamic fundamentalism. 'Allamah Fadlallah added: We are a strong people and signs of our strength are the mujahidin in the south and western al-Biqā'. He noted that Israel cannot at this stage expand its area of occupation and annex new areas in the south or western al-Biqā'.

Columnist Comments on Clinton's Test at Tokyo Summit*NC1207163093 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 6 Jul 93 pp 6, 13*

[Sahar Ba'asiri column: "Tokyo's Chance"]

[Excerpts] President Clinton will face his first international test in Tokyo tomorrow. Will he be able to prove both in words and deeds that he can lead the world and that the United States is the only one fit to play this role?

The test is difficult. The most difficult part is that Clinton is acting under a cloud of doubt in his own abilities. Undoubtedly, he will go to his first meeting with his partners in the group of industrial states armed with some political and economic achievements and relatively satisfied that most of his partners are suffering similar or even more serious problems. However, his main concern will be to persuade these partners that he is not hesitant and that he can adopt decisive measures when necessary.

Political issues might not be the best example to prove his ability. What he considers U.S. achievements in Iraq, Somalia, and other hotbeds of tension are not a point of dispute among the allies. However, the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina remains a serious problem and the differences over it are clear inside and outside the Security Council. European dissatisfaction with his hesitation in dealing with this issue irks him.

Therefore, Clinton will use the Tokyo Summit to prove his economic capability. He will try to exert pressure to achieve his aims on world trade and helping Russia. [passage omitted]

It does not seem that Clinton will achieve a breakthrough in promoting the talks on the liberalization of world trade and opening markets. France rejects the U.S. restrictions on agricultural products and European steel. Japan, embroiled in a political crisis, is cautious toward his trade policy and his attempt to impose conditions. It dealt him a blow even before the summit had started when it obstructed his plan to help Russia, a matter to which he pays great attention. He now expects much less than he had planned. [passage omitted]

It is true that Clinton might seem strong among his industrial partners, and even stronger than they are. He will remind France and Japan that he lifted the ban on Vietnam obtaining loans from the IMF, as they had been asking. He will remind everybody that he extended the ban on nuclear tests for one year. However, the existing political and economic differences will limit the chances for the success of the summit.

G-7 Statement on Boycott, Lebanon, Bosnia Viewed*NC1307114393 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic 9 Jul 93 p 4*

["AL-DIYAR Highlights" column by Muhammad Baqir Shari: "The Industrial Countries and Human Rights: From Clinton's 'Haircut' to the Assassination of Leaders"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Among all the decisions of the industrial countries' summit, we in the Middle East are concerned about the "call" that those countries, led by the United States—we do not say by Bill Clinton—addressed to the Arab countries on the "need" to lift the economic boycott against Israel. The serious thing about this call is that it literally translates the desires of Israel, which has so far provided nothing to prove it intends to return the occupied territories to its owners. What is more serious, perhaps, is that some Arab countries that had already started political normalization with Israel (Egypt), or economic normalization with it (some Gulf countries), may use the position of the industrial nations as an excuse to justify their capitulation to Israel.

As regards the announcement that the G-7 supports the reconstruction of Lebanon, this has not been put into practice. It has not been translated into cash or technical assistance so that one can say the "sympathies" of the industrial countries toward Lebanon's reconstruction have some practical manifestation.

If Boris Yeltsin, who waged the war of "the Western model" on Russia's soil, canceled his prime minister's visit to the United States in protest against the Western countries' lack of sufficient support, and announced that Russia has received nothing but promises from the West, then can little Lebanon hope that the Western "sympathy" for its reconstruction will be translated into practical decisions?

Some people may be pleased with the "decisions" of the G-7, which warn the Serbs and Croats against going further in tearing apart the oppressed Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. But those who believe in decisions made by summits led by the United States should remember that the Security Council, which at the instruction of the United States adopted resolutions against Iraq, Libya, and Somalia, is the same Security Council that "rejected" lifting the arms embargo against Bosnia and maintained the influx of weapons to the Serbs and Croats. [passage omitted]

Tokyo Summit's View of Country Criticized*NC1207083993 Beirut AL-ANWAR in Arabic 10 Jul 93 p 1*

[Editorial by Rafiq Khuri: "Lebanon Viewed by the Tokyo Summit"]

[Text] The political statement issued by the G-7 summit had one economic line on Lebanon. The economic statement contained few lines on the countries of the

"south." The significance of this lies in that they confine Lebanon's economy within its political context. The summit that supported "the reconstruction effort in Lebanon" explained this support indirectly when it talked about the countries of the "south" without specific commitment other than "support for the efforts of these countries to help themselves based on the principle of good management of public affairs." The world's rich—who tried to organize their affairs under the slogan "restoring growth in the world economy" through measures to be taken in the United States, Europe, and Japan—have left the other countries nothing but advice and good wishes, except Russia, which obtained a specific figure in aid, that is, \$3 billion. The secret of this measure is that the success of the market economy in Russia is "a good investment" in America's future.

How does the Tokyo summit support reconstruction in Lebanon? Is this the only problem in this small homeland? Is reconstruction separate from its political and national concerns and from these countries' policies on Lebanon and the Middle East?

It is said, of course, that the summit summed up Lebanon's other problems when it discussed backing the settlement effort in the Middle East. The United States links Lebanon's future with the settlement. There is now no effort or political dimension outside the framework of the negotiations for a settlement, so Ambassador Djerejian defined the priorities of foreign policy on Lebanon in two areas: "restoring its economy and rebuilding its Armed Forces." But Djerejian did not leave it there; he added conditions when he discussed several things needed in and from Lebanon, including "completing the task of disarming the militias."

This is why economic talk about Lebanon still has a political framework. The international-Arab fund did not disappear merely because those who promised to contribute found themselves deeply immersed in other problems and concerns following the Gulf war and the collapse of the Soviet Union. And the Tokyo summit's support for the reconstruction effort has no tangible economic meaning amid this insistence on entombing not only the fund, but its idea. Even Paris, which opened a window of hope that international aid might go to Lebanon during its foreign minister's visit to Saudi Arabia, has gone back on its word and explained that the discussions were held within the context of efforts and that "neither figures nor a specific timetable for implementation" were discussed.

What is happening in Beirut is an argument over defining the reasons blocking aid, which only comes drop by drop so that the situation does not collapse. Some believe Lebanon is paying for its rejection of the international conditions that its foreign policy needs, both on the level of the bilateral and multinational talks and in implementing the regional aspect of the al-Ta'if Accord. Others believe Lebanon is paying for a lack of

confidence in the authorities' ability to "manage public affairs well." The price of the internal imbalance and the desire for economic reconstruction are weak and shaky. There are others who say the reasons are all of those above and some who say the reasons are exaggerated because the powers that link Lebanon's fate with the settlement are in no hurry over Lebanon, although they demand a settlement publicly.

If reading the situation is not enough to decide the argument, then reading the "Lebanese" line in the Tokyo summit statement is.

'Strongest' G-7 Member Said To Be Giving Orders

NC1207091893 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 10 Jul 93 p 13

[Editorial by Sa'id Sa'b: "On the Sidelines of the Tokyo Summit"]

[Text] What does the G-7 summit mean? What is its role? What and who does it serve? The questions are not new and have been posed since the industrial nations' leaders began their annual meetings to discuss their problems and solutions, in most cases at the expense of others. When they first started meeting, these countries' economies were booming, but most of them now suffer recession and unemployment, which has reached approximately 30 million.

The G-7 has never found a permanent solution to any crisis. The members have never concurred on a common view on a major issue. When they agreed on something it would be on an indirect issue and they would formulate their agreement in general terms recommending, but not binding.

Despite its importance to President Bill Clinton in particular, Tokyo's latest summit is no different from previous ones except that it convened at a crucial stage that could decide the fate of the GATT. Some parties call for abandoning this agreement and reverting to national or continental protection.

Should this reversal run its course, it would render the Uruguay meeting of seven years ago, before the recession, aimless and pave the way for a possible trade war among the rich nations with consequences for the world's economy, particularly the workforce.

In light of these possibilities, it is difficult to talk of a successful summit in Tokyo or even of relative progress as the Americans and Japanese suggested. Behind the high profile surrounding the summit, some members declared positions emphasizing that it is difficult, even impossible, to concur on one position striking a balance between the political and economic interests of the parties concerned. The domestic circumstances of each state primarily dictate the state position: The automobile industry in the United States, farming in France, and reasons for unity in Germany.

The G-7 basically is not an institutionalized entity and has no bylaws to direct its work or rules to bind its members. It is a periodic meeting among competitors, each seeking his own interests. This has been the group's form since former French President Giscard d'Estang invited his rich counterparts for "a chat" around a fireplace in the Rambouillet Palace in 1975. But the Americans now want to institutionalize this bloc to have real responsibilities and

binding jurisdiction. They want to open a G-7 bureau in Moscow to coordinate aid to Russia and oversee ways of spending that aid, which would definitely entail interfering in Russian economic policy and steer it in such a way as to suit the policies of the rich nations. These seven are competing among one another and taking a stance against other nations. One of them is the strongest and it is that one that gives the orders.

Al-Asad, Ross Discuss Peace Process, Clinton Message

JN1207170393 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Damascus, 12 Jul (SANA)—His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Dennis Ross, special coordinator for the Middle East peace talks, and his delegation at 1100 today. [passage omitted]

Dennis Ross delivered a message to President al-Asad from U.S. President Bill Clinton in which he emphasizes U.S. eagerness to maintain the Middle East peace process and to play the role of full partner and honest broker in this process.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with the peace process, the stages it has covered, and the possibility of advancing it.

The U.S. side expressed the U.S. Administration's desire to make a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict the objective of the peace process, and to actively play the role of full partner and honest broker.

His excellency the president stressed that Syria, which has always worked for a just and comprehensive peace and accepted the U.S. peace initiative in accordance with the principle of land for peace, and Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, will continue to work for a just and comprehensive peace.

Peace Efforts To Continue Following Clinton Message

JN1307073493 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Jul 93

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel's Position and Ross's Tour," AL-BA'TH says: No doubt, the outcome of 10 rounds of peace talks has left a bad impression on all those who are working for genuine peace in the region. Despite the fact that attempts have been made to achieve a breakthrough in the peace process, these talks remained at square one. Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian negotiating delegation, even noted a retreat in the Israeli positions. As a result, various news media have begun to talk about the failure of these talks, linking the outcome of the 10th round to the policy of threatening to launch aggressions which Israel is currently pursuing against Lebanon.

The news media believe that Israel's provocations, aggressions, and military buildup against Lebanon only mean that Israel is evading the requirements of peace. Israel has thus far continued to maneuver and procrastinate on this point.

AL-BA'TH adds: Although it is premature to say that the peace talks have failed, there are signs calling for pessimism rather than optimism. However, U.S. President

Bill Clinton's assurances in his message to President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday as well as the official U.S. concern for playing a role of full partner and honest broker, according to this message, will prompt us to continue work, as President Hafiz al-Asad asserted, for a just and comprehensive peace in accordance with the land-for-peace principle and Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

AL-BA'TH continues: It is obvious that Israel is obstructing the peace process. Now that the United States has pledged to play the role of full partner and honest broker, we believe that if it actually plays this role some major breakthroughs may be made in the peace talks. Such breakthroughs may provide an appropriate basis for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Southern Lebanon 'Turmoil,' Ross Tour Viewed

JN1107081793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 11 Jul 93

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper TISHRIN says: The Israelis admit that there is turmoil in southern Lebanon. In this context, the Israeli occupation army's chief of staff said that the south is experiencing war. However, the Israelis fail to admit that the source of tension is the occupation of southern Lebanon. The paper explains that the serious Israeli escalation is aimed at increasing tension and curtailing the mission of the U.S. envoy to the region.

TISHRIN says that the Israeli occupation is the root of all tribulations and disasters in the region. The paper expresses astonishment that each time matters reach the edge of the abyss, the Israelis attempt to conceal their responsibility for pushing the situation to the point of explosion and fabricate pretexts to acquit themselves of responsibility for escalating the situation.

TISHRIN affirms that Israel's allegations and lies about its innocence are refuted by its air, land, and sea attacks on southern Lebanon and the destruction of its villages on the pretext of maintaining the security of its villages. However, Israel is mistaken if it believes that such a policy can guarantee its security. This is because occupation is the antithesis of security. Any occupied nation is entitled to resist and remove the occupation. Israel's self-declared security zone poses one of the most serious threats to peace and security, and is the fuse that can ignite the entire situation.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: Terminating Israel's occupation of the south and all occupied Arab territories is the basic and natural condition for establishing peace and security in the region. Israel's insistence on demanding security while ignoring Arab security runs counter to all norms. The source of all the turmoil and deterioration is what Israel is openly practicing against Lebanon. According to international law and charters, resisting occupation is a legitimate act.

AL-BA'TH says: Dennis Ross, the U.S. envoy to the region, continues his tour and meetings with the parties to the peace process, particularly with Israeli officials. The paper stresses the need for Mr. Ross to emphasize to the Israelis that they should abide by the terms of reference of the peace process as a necessary prerequisite for pushing peace even one step forward.

AL-BA'TH affirms that the entire world is fully aware which party is obstructing the peace process. The paper explains that the U.S. Administration knows full well who is obstructing peace, and knows that the Arabs have given everything possible within the framework of international resolutions and legitimacy to achieve peace. The paper refers to numerous Israeli statements on the peace process. All such statements testify that Israel has not gone to these talks to help them attain their objectives. In fact, Israel's basic objective is to undermine the peace process from within. This has been proved by the results of the 10 rounds of talks.

AL-BA'TH adds that all Israel has done at the negotiating table is to evade any discussion of the core of the issue, which is a full, comprehensive withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. This withdrawal is the prelude for discussing subsequent matters which can lead to security and stability in the region. However, Israel circumvents these principles and demands discussions on security and normalization, without showing any sign that it intends to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. In fact, it wants peace without giving anything in return.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Pushing the peace talks in the right direction requires a firm U.S. attitude toward Israel, which is preventing any progress being made in the peace process.

U.S. Urged To End Israeli Attacks on Southern Lebanon

JN1107152393 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1135 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Israel continues to escalate tension and aggravate the southern Lebanon situation. The escalation is accompanied by a campaign of provocations and threats aimed at the Lebanese Government and Army. It is no secret to any observer of developments in the Middle East that the Israeli occupation is a source of tension and the cause of the lack of security. It is also no secret to any observer that Israel can have security if it withdraws from southern Lebanon and implements UN Security Council Resolution 425. But, the rulers of Israel insist on distorting facts. They are demanding that the Lebanese Government provide security for their occupation forces. Such a demand means only that Lebanon should give up its southern region and that the Lebanese Government should submit to the loss of an important part of the country to satisfy Israel's expansionist ambitions.

It is common knowledge that occupation gives birth to resistance and that resistance is a legitimate act for peoples whose territories were occupied by force and terrorism. At the talks in Washington, the Lebanese Government sought in vain to convince the Israelis to respond to UN Security Council Resolution 425 and end their occupation of southern Lebanon. It offered to deploy the Lebanese Army in all border areas and to guarantee security in these areas. However, Israel rejected this army deployment and refused to implement Resolution 425. Instead of sincerely seeking peace and abiding by the basics of the peace process and its terms of reference, Israel exercised a scorched earth policy in southern Lebanon. Not a single day goes by without attacks and bombardment from land, sea and air. It is natural that this barbaric behavior clashes with efforts to achieve peace. If the Lebanese people, whose villages are being bombarded and houses are being destroyed, engages in resistance, Israel raises hell and issues threats to the Government, Army, and people of Lebanon, demanding that the Lebanese people look after the security of its occupation forces.

The cries of war from the rulers of Israel nowadays are only one of the methods used to foil the peace talks and abort the mission of U.S. envoy Dennis Ross, who came to the region after the failure of the 10th round to energize the peace efforts and open better horizons before the 11th round. The Lebanese Government is not obliged to provide a climate of stability and security for the Israeli occupation forces, preventing the Lebanese people from exercising their natural right to defend its territory and property and maintain its future.

If Israel is truly seeking security, then the solution is in its hand and is represented by implementing UN Security Council resolutions and complying with the bases of the Madrid conference and the terms of reference of the peace process. All world politicians and leaders know Lebanon is a peaceful country and is only seeking to regain its territories. These world politicians and leaders know Syria did its best to facilitate the U.S. envoys' missions and to make the U.S. peace initiative a success. Moreover, Syria repeatedly opened the doors Israel closed before efforts to achieve peace. It presented an objective and balanced working paper, the contents of which were praised by all international circles. Syria, along with the Arabs, always responded to all peace calls and attended all the rounds, in each of which it offered to exchange full peace for full Israeli withdrawal. However, the sincere Arab response was not heeded by the rulers of Israel who insist on devouring Jerusalem and most of the occupied territories. These Israeli rulers are demanding peace, treaties, and open borders from the Arabs, in addition to the current demand that the Arabs guarantee the security of their occupation forces. It is clear that Israel's demands do not end and that it does not have any respect for any norm, law, or resolution. It is also clear that it always violates UN principles and charters and is acting as if the U.S. decision is made in Tel Aviv and not in Washington.

From this premise, the Arabs continuously demanded the United States to play the role of a full and fair partner in order to rally to the cause of justice and international law. After the summit meeting with Egyptian President Mubarak in Latakia, President Hafiz al-Asad said statements by the Americans and their emphasized insistence on playing the role of a full partner did not reflect on the peace talks and on the Israeli negotiator's stand. Despite this, President Hafiz al-Asad said Syria will not pass quick judgement on the U.S. stand and that it is awaiting results.

Perhaps the best thing the United States can do now as its envoy tours the Middle East is to take the initiative to convince Israel's rulers to cease the acts of shelling in southern Lebanon and stop their threats and provocations which harm the peace process and push the region to the brink of the unknown.

Arab Solidarity Said Focus of al-Asad-Mubarak Meeting

JN1007073393 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial, TISHRIN discusses the Middle East peace process in light of the results of the Latakia summit between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Husni Mubarak. TISHRIN says political and international circles have followed the results of this summit with a great deal of interest. They noted that Syria has given the the current U.S. Administration a new chance to assume its responsibilities and translate the fair, honest full-partner role that it has pledged to undertake into tangible actions.

TISHRIN discusses the disappointing results of the 10th round of talks, which constituted a new shock for the entire international community, as a result of Israel's policies. The paper says the world cannot be indifferent toward the collapse of the peace talks, nor can it accept that Israel deliberately and systematically derails these talks. As usual, Syria supported the cause of peace when it reopened the gates closed by Israel's intransigence, arrogance, and refusal to implement UN Security Council resolutions.

TISHRIN explains that when Syria gives the U.S. Administration a chance to translate its pledges into reality, it means the U.S. responsibility is given a chance to rise to the level of the serious cause of peace, in a manner that reflects on the intransigent Israeli policies.

TISHRIN says: During the Latakia summit, President Hafiz al-Asad was also eager to place the Arabs before their responsibilities. The entire Arab nation is supposed

to stand united behind the Arab negotiators in Washington and to show the world that unless a just peace is achieved, there will be no peace at all. This is because there can be no peace if occupation and usurpation continue. The Arabs will be eager to achieve a real, stable peace when they regain their occupied lands and when the Palestinian people can exercise their national rights, particularly the right to self-determination.

TISHRIN adds: When Israel finds itself confronted by a unified Arab stance adhering to the restoration of all territories and rights, its leaders will give a second thought to the impossible conditions through which they seek to undermine the peace process. Besides, when the international community feels that there is a unified, firm Arab position, it will move more effectively.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: The Arab countries—governments, forces, and people—are no less responsible than the international community. Through their solidarity, and by overcoming the state of disarray and loss, the Arabs can achieve a great deal. On the other hand, the Arabs will lose a great deal if their disarray and disunity continues.

AL-THAWRAH discusses the need for the revival of Arab solidarity, given that it is the way the Arab nation can overcome its difficult circumstances.

AL-THAWRAH says: There is a growing need for Arab solidarity. This is in view of the real impasse experienced by the bilateral talks emerging the Middle East peace conference after 10 rounds and 20 months. The impasse stems from growing Israeli intransigence and the Tel Aviv rulers' refusal to abide the requirements of a just, comprehensive peace, particularly a full withdrawal from the entire occupied Arab territories—the West Bank, Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, the occupied part of Southern Lebanon, and, of course, Jerusalem.

AL-THAWRAH adds: We in Syria have spared no effort to discuss this solidarity. We will continue such discussions until solidarity has again reached the level of the profound, effective solidarity that prevailed in the early seventies. This is because no event, no matter how grave it is, should be allowed to obstruct the Arab nation's progress or to dismember it forever.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: Therefore, the Arab nation—citizens and leaders—are now required to rectify the current Arab situation. This is because the future carries dangers much graver than imagined by many of us. This was reasserted by leader Hafiz al-Asad the day before yesterday, when he said: The Arab situation will get worse without Arab solidarity, and without what we call unity of Arab positions and joint concepts, based on learning from the past and from our experiences and tribulations. If there is no serious and real solidarity within the context of this vision, then the Arab situation will get worse. This is what we do not want see happen.

India

President, Delegation Leave on Four-Nation Tour

BK1307034293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The president, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, left New Delhi this morning on a 10-day state visit to Ukraine, Turkey, and Hungary. He will also pay an official visit to Britain. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. R.L. Bhatia, a few members of parliament, and senior officials are accompanying the president.

Tour To Forge New Links

BK1307044893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Commentary by Sumati Vishwanadam]

[Text] The president's four-nation visit to Ukraine, Hungary, Turkey, and Britain beginning today will further strengthen bilateral relations with these countries. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma starts his 13-day tour with a state visit to Ukraine. India was the first among the few countries which gave recognition to Ukraine when it became independent from the former Soviet Union in December 1991. The two countries have already signed agreements for cooperation in the fields of trade and economic collaboration. Besides, they are also consolidating on cooperation in the spheres of culture, arts, education, mass media, and sports. At the Ukrainian capital of Kiev, Dr. Sharma will have talks with his counterpart President Leonid Kravchuk, who had visited India last year. As a goodwill gesture on the eve of president's visit to that country, the Ukrainian Government allowed over 1,000 Indian students to continue their studies without paying the revised fees.

In Turkey, Dr. Sharma will have talks with President Demirel and the country's first woman prime minister, Mrs. Tansu Ciller. There are hopes of signing a few trade agreements with Ankara during the president's current visit.

From Turkey, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma lands in the beautiful Hungarian capital Budapest, which actually consists of two scenic towns—Buda and Pest straddling the River Danube. While India and Hungary have signed agreements on science and technology, and have a long tradition of cultural interaction, there is a need to further strengthen economic cooperation. In the context of India's recent economic reforms, the experiences gleaned from Hungary's liberalization programs could prove useful to India.

On the last leg of his tour, the president will pay a visit to Britain where he will be conferred with an honorary degree by the Cambridge University. He is the first Indian president to receive this honor. Cambridge happens to be his Alma Mater. The British prime minister is expected to call on Dr. Sharma. The talks will help to

further expand the spheres of mutual cooperation between New Delhi and London.

On his way back home, the president will have a brief stopover in Athens. In today's changing global political and economic scenario, the president's visit will forge new links as well as rejuvenate old ones.

Rao: Dunkel Proposals Pose No Threat to Farmers

BK1007080393 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] The prime minister has made a scathing attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party saying that it is trying to split the people in the name of religion, which is against the Indian Constitution and tradition. Addressing public meetings at Ajmer and Udaipur, Mr. Narasimha Rao cautioned the people that the country would disintegrate if its secular character is destroyed. He asked the people to be alert and thwart fundamentalist and communal forces whose sole objective is to capture power. He appealed to all political parties not to misguide the people on religious and communal issues for political gains. He said that the communal poison should be taken out of the minds of the future generations of the country.

Mr. Narasimha Rao said that the new liberalized policy has led to some good results. He said that new industrial units worth 60,000 crore rupees have been established as a result of this policy.

Referring to Punjab, he said that after 12 years of bloodshed, peace and harmony has returned to the state. Mr. Narasimha Rao said that baseless issues are being raised in the name of Dunkel proposals and the farmers are being misled. He assured the people that the farmers' interests will not be harmed by the Dunkel proposals. He said the country will not have to import foodgrains from outside and subsidies for farmers will continue.

Exports Increase, Imports Decline in Apr-May

BK1307094993 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The country's exports in U.S. dollar terms during April-May 1993 have registered a growth of over 29 percent compared to the same period last year. Imports have shown decline of four percent during the same period. These figures are according to the provisional estimates of India's foreign trade released by the director general of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. The trade deficit during April-May 1993 is \$6.59 million as against trade deficit of over \$944 million during the same period last year.

Commenting on the (?debt), the minister of state for commerce, Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmad, said the export growth rate trend is encouraging and if it continues the export target of 20 percent growth during 1993-94 will be achieved.

Congress-I Sees 'No Danger' in No-Confidence Motion

BK1207145993 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The Congress-I says there is no danger to the Narasimha Rao government from the proposed no-confidence motion of the National Front-Left Front combine. Replying to a question whether the Congress-I will seek the support of the AIDMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam], the spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, said everything is possible in politics. Regarding an alliance with secular parties in Uttar Pradesh, the spokesman dismissed it as too premature as assembly elections are not yet announced.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Endorsed as Sixth President

LD1107152993 Tehran IRNA in English 1310 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—Credentials of Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the sixth president of the Islamic Republic of Iran was endorsed by the Council of Guardians here today.

The council in his meeting today also endorsed the authenticity of the first round of the by-elections of the fourth term of the Majles.

President Rafsanjani will take the presidential oath in the parliament on 3 August after he receives his decree from the leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i.

Majles By-Elections Endorsed

LD1107131993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] The Guardian Council met today. At its meeting, it endorsed the validity of the by-elections for the [current] fourth term of the Majles for the constituencies of Razan, Qa'emshahr and (Savadku), and Piranshahr and Sardasht, which were held on 11 June.

Majles Deputies Discuss Cabinet, Local Issues

LD1307131293

[Editorial Report] Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran Second Program in Persian at 0350 GMT on 13 July carries live coverage of pre-agenda speeches in the Majles.

First to speak is Mohammad 'Ali Shar'i, deputy for Qom, who begins his 10-minute speech by greeting the nation and the people of Qom. He goes on to discuss the government's first five-year plan and says it has been successful on the whole, but he cautions against giving too much emphasis to materialistic values. In connection

with the awaited presentation of a new cabinet, he expressed confidence in President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's choice and adds that good ministers should have the following qualities: piety, faith, unquestioning obedience to Khamene'i, familiarity with the relevant work and managerial skills, total belief in the ability of Islam to govern, courage to confront global arrogance, avoidance of ostentation, and careful supervision of day-to-day administrative affairs.

Next to speak is Ebrahim Sarraf, deputy for Marand, who congratulates Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his reelection, and discusses his constituency's problems, including unemployment, inadequate use of water resources and housing shortages. At the end of his eight-minute speech, he alludes to unspecified ministers originating from the city of Esfahan whom he says are untrustworthy.

Sarraf allocates three minutes of his time to Kamel Abedizadeh, deputy for Khoy, who gives a three-minute address in which he expresses hope for the introduction of a cabinet "which is strong, hezbollahi, and devoted to religion and the revolution." He praises the minister of higher education, Mo'in, for his work and requests greater assistance from the minister of reconstruction jihad regarding the use of water resources in his constituency.

'Ali Ya'qubi, deputy for Bahar and Kabutar Ahang, then makes a six-minute speech in which he stresses that the new cabinet ministers should be skillful and good managers, but, above all, devoted to the values of the revolution. He says the position of current cabinet ministers who have not been "sufficiently devoted to hezbollahis" should be reconsidered. He also says economic growth is only valuable when combined with social justice. Then, he speaks about his constituency's problems, including fuel shortages, insufficient numbers of health specialists, and delays in the purchase of potato crops by government.

Finally, 'Ali Mirkarimi, deputy for Qasr-e Shirin, makes a five-minute speech on the problems faced by his constituency in connection with reconstruction. Among the problems he lists are inadequate electricity supplies, unemployment, unpaved roads, and poor management of resources allocated for reconstruction of war-stricken areas.

Broadcasting Chief Returns After Talks in ROK

LD0907111993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Text] In their meeting last night with Mr. Mohammad Hashemi, the head of the Voice and Vision, South Korean officials emphasized the Islamic Republic of Iran's key role in the Middle East and the Far East regions. Furthermore, they called for the expansion of bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Mr. Hashemi and his accompanying team also inspected electronics factories in the city of Sevan yesterday.

The Voice and Vision head returned to Tehran this morning.

German Ambassador Views Relations, Nuclear Plant

LD1107101993 Tehran IRNA in English 0938 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—German Ambassador to Tehran Reinhold Schenk said that his country attached great importance to Bonn-Tehran ties and believed that Iran played and would play a key role in maintaining peace and security in the Persian Gulf region.

Iran's population, natural resources and other potentials make it strategically important for Germany, said Schenk in an interview published in the Sunday [11 July] issue of the English daily "TEHRAN TIMES".

He stressed that Germany was after having better economic relations with Iran.

The ambassador said that efforts were being made to remove the existing obstacles in the way of balanced commercial and economic ties with Iran.

Admitting that there was an imbalance in the mutual trade, he said, "the Iranian side should show patience, because the imbalance would be removed in the years to come."

He added that efforts had been made to encourage the German companies to purchase more Iranian oil and non-oil products but due to the free market economy in that country they had faced problems in this connection.

He said that Germany was not yet in a position to fulfill its commitment on the Bushehr nuclear power plant because the Persian Gulf region "is still a high-risk area."

The 7.8 billion Deutsche mark contract was signed for setting up the Bushehr plant by Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation and the German Kraftwerk Union (KWU) in 1976. The contractor is now Siemens.

Admitting that the Bushehr plant was on the priority list of Iran, he stressed that the German public opinion and parliament did not allow them to fulfil their commitments.

Iran has a different attitude towards this unresolved issue, commented the daily. Tehran emphasised time and again that it would never use the Bushehr plant for anything but for peaceful purposes.

Iran has even proposed that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) could supervise over and inspect the plant.

Recently Iran declared once again that it would never go for any sort of deadly weapons and that it was ready to make all efforts for making this region free of nuclear weapons.

Iran has even suggested that beside the inspection by the IAEA, Germany would be able to send its observers after the construction of the Bushehr plant.

Referring to the Hermes credit of 14,000 million marks (dlrs. 9,000 million) to Iran and the prolongation of the payment of 1,500 million marks, he said that these were good signs and bases for the expansion of bilateral relations. The Hermes is a government agency for the export credit insurance in Germany.

He scoffed at the Western media propaganda on Iranian purchases of weapons saying that other countries were buying more compared to Iran.

"I really do not know why the Western media are making such a baseless propaganda against Iran," he said in reply to a question.

On the Balkans, he said that they were against all sorts of oppression. "We have full sympathies with the Bosnian Muslims and this is the reason that we have 300,000 refugees from there."

Germany has opposed the embargo imposed by the United Nations on Bosnia-Herzegovina and has the largest number of Bosnian refugees.

Stressing that the situation in the former Yugoslavia was alarming he called for a "genuine solution to the problem".

Schenk said that some 63,000 visas had been issued for the Iranians to visit Germany last year.

Italian Envoy: Italy To Back Iran at Next G-7 Session

LD1307124893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The Italian ambassador to Iran today met Mr. Mohammad Hoseyn Mahlujhi, minister of mines and metals, and commented on the G-7 session in Tokyo. He said that the Italian Government supports the Islamic Republic of Iran's principled stance. He added: Italy will back the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic of Iran during the next session of the G-7 countries, which will convene in Naples and will be chaired by Italy.

At the meeting Mr. Mahlujhi welcomed the expansion of economic relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Italy.

Further Reaction to G-7 Meeting in Tokyo

Motives Behind Aid To Russia Viewed

LD0907210893 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English* 1930 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The leaders of seven world industrialized countries meeting in Tokyo, the capital of Japan, have agreed to allocate \$3,000 million in credit to the Russian Government to spend on economic reconstruction and to speed up the privatization trend in that country. Although Mr. Boris Yeltsin, who left for Tokyo to meet the leaders of seven industrialized countries, can be somehow pleased to hear the news on receiving \$3,000 million, beyond a doubt, there is such a gap between Russia's real needs and the credit allocated to it by the Group of Seven, that Yeltsin will not have a clear reason to express open satisfaction.

The Moscow-based widely circulated PRAVDA's comments, which has expressed doubt toward receiving West's effective aid packages, can indicate attitudes existing in Moscow. Nevertheless, one must note that Mr. Yeltsin's government have severely leant its internal situation to the seven industrialized countries' aid packages. For this reason Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Japan during the last days of their summit meeting can be significant.

The question as to whether the big industrialized countries in the world are prepared to save Russia's disorderly economy has generated serious doubt. Most analysts basically do not believe the West is thinking of saving Russia from the plight in which it is involved. Even some of them have gone so far as to say that the main objective of the West is to plunder Russia's natural resources at the same level which it treats the Third World countries. Therefore the Western countries will support Mr. Yeltsin's government, to an extent, to pave the way for the world big capitalists' access to Russia's large market.

The fact that Yeltsin looks for equal conditions and Russian goods' easy access to the world markets is not something desirable for the leaders of the seven industrialized countries. On this basis the Russian Government's expectation on joining the G-7 is not taken seriously, for the Russian president has been permitted to meet with the leaders of seven industrialized countries on the sideline of the talks at the level of Indonesian President Suharto.

It is believed that when the commentator of PRAVDA writes, despite Moscow's support for the United States' missile attack against Baghdad, the Western countries are unlikely to provide Russia with considerable aid packages, he has paid attention to a basic problem in Russia's relations with the Western world with more realism, a problem which the Yeltsin government has intentionally tried to ignore. This attitude has been strengthened by the more Russia is harmonizing itself

with the United States and its allies, the more they are concerned about Russia's different stances, the more its negative impact on the big industrialized powers' interests decrease. For this reason they do not feel a need for extending effective assistance to Russia. Therefore, these aid packages can be limited and calculated to merge the Russian economy in the international economy in a way that the maximum interest of the world capitalist will be ensured, and not to fine up conditions which might turn Russia into another rival power by reconstructing its economy.

Of course it is important to note that the G-7 will not procrastinate in its aid packages to Russia to a level that Yeltsin's government will become helpless in running the country under the pressure of hard economic conditions so as the opposition parties' conservatives return to power with the current trend of politics.

A tamed Russia with a vague future will have a special attraction for the West for some time. Hence Russians, in dealing with the West, must know what real position they enjoy. At least they should forget the memory of the former rival superpower so that they receive attention as a needy country.

U.S. Promoting 'Dual Containment' Policy

NC1107121393 *Tehran RESALAT in Persian* 5 Jul 93
p 16

[Political commentary: "U.S. Objectives at the Tokyo Session"]

[Text] The policy the United States has recently been pursuing under the label the dual containment of Iran and Iraq is gradually revealing its hidden aspects. That Iran was also the target of the severest negative propaganda and tacit threats during the unjustifiable U.S. attack on Iraq needs to be studied.

1. In the past few days the CIA has described Iran as the supporter of world terrorism and while the bereaved Iranian people remember the victims of the airbus downed by U.S. Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. secretary of state describes Iran as an international insurgent; Brzezinski calls on Clinton to regard the threat of Iran as more serious than Iraq; Richard Murphy describes the attack on Iraq as the first perceptible step toward the implementation of the policy of dual containment of Iran and Iraq and expresses deep regret over Tehran's renewed rejection of improving its ties with Washington (!); and the proprietor of a U.S. publication says Iran will be the most significant threat to the region!

2. The unity of U.S. and Israeli policies in this new scenario is very interesting. Israel, a usurping government that enjoys unconditional U.S. support, spreads propaganda that Iran can target the missiles it purchases from North Korea at Israel and Japan!

3. In the Tokyo session in Japan this week, the United States continues to strive to gain the consent of other powerful countries to rule the world in a new manner to achieve its political-economic objectives. By pushing the issue of Iran at the session, Washington is trying to achieve a political statement against Tehran. But it is doubtful how successful it can be. The political green light given by the White House to Bonn and Tokyo to join the Security Council is the first step in the effort to gain their consent to fully conform their policies against Iran.

4. Attaching hopes to U.S. promises will yield no positive results for Germany, Japan, and the other world powers nor will France's fall into the dangerous trap that Washington has set. The repetition by the French foreign minister of empty and deliberate U.S. allegations that because of its support for terrorism (!) and its arms purchases, Iran should—"in his opinion"—be isolated does not really conform with Paris' almost independent policy.

If the outcome of U.S. and Israeli political pressure is a military act against Iran, again the United States will be at takeoff point. The eight years of Iraq's imposed war against Iran, the repeated U.S. air and sea attacks, and its support for domestic terrorist groupings in massacring the people and the officials of the system could not force the Islamic system to its knees. They all worked to make Iran more mellow.

The Americans should know that in their acts against Iran, they have always received a blow from the place they least expected.

Deputy Assails G-7 Statement

LD1107145993 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran Second Program in Persian 0415 GMT 11 Jul 93*

[Speech by Seyyed Motahhar Kazemi, deputy from Khalkhal, in the Majles in Tehran—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Today America warns Iran and tries to intimidate Iran. If we were to be intimidated by America, it would have been during the Iran-Iraq war when we faced many problems. Today industrial countries—with all the differences of opinion which exist among them; between America and Japan and America and Europe—as experts say, they held some meetings like lame ducks, and they advise Iran and send messages of peace, which is ridiculous.

If Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali today raises the issue of the transformation of the United Nations, he should first think of the right of veto and the exertion of influence by world powers, such as America, and introduce transformation in those respects.

The performance of the Western world and the United Nations regarding the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina—who were sent to slaughterhouses and their rights trampled upon—and even the UN's rejection

of the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina, are among their very cowardly actions.

Today the world has lost its confidence in the United Nations. Today almost the whole world has been sacrificed for the comfort of the tyrannical and aggressive minority who rules and oppresses most of the world. America claims world leadership. It has neither the competence nor the power for that. Today America imposes its pure [as heard] objectives and intentions on the world and rationalizes international laws and issues to its own advantage. [passage omitted]

ICO Urged To Send Military Assistance to Bosnia

NC1207073093 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 12 Jul 93*

[Station commentary from the News Commentaries Group]

[Text] Representatives of 16 countries, members of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], are meeting in Islamabad to discuss assisting Bosnia-Herzegovina and how Islamic countries can send military forces there under UN supervision.

The number of troops, their budget, heavy equipment, participation in the command of the forces, their protection, and providing the necessary air cover will be covered.

This action by Islamic countries follows the approval of Security Council Resolution 836 on the military protection of the safe areas designated by the United Nations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In the resolution, the secretary general asked some Islamic countries to dispatch forces to Bosnia, hence the ICO agreement to ask some countries to travel to Pakistan and make decisions. In their statements, the ICO member countries have repeatedly condemned the ethnic cleansing by the Serbs in Bosnia and their refusal to abide by the Security Council resolutions and have stressed their commitment to establishing peace in the former Yugoslavia. These countries consider the use of force to be justified to obtain assurance that there is complete adherence to UN resolutions and to combat the Serb aggression against innocent Bosnian civilians according to Article 42 of the UN Charter. They call for lifting the arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The impotence of international organizations, most notably the United Nations, in resolving international disputes and their succumbing to the influence of greater powers prevents the United Nations from playing its sensitive role. This means the Muslim countries must coordinate and cooperate regionally and internationally toward playing an important role in solving international disputes, especially the problems of the Islamic world.

In these international circumstances, when some UN resolutions and decisions are implemented swiftly and others are delayed or ignored, Islamic countries' unity and convergence is essential. The European and U.S. ban on lifting the arms embargo on Bosnia-Herzegovina in tandem with the United Nations casts doubts over Article 51 of the UN Charter, that is, the right to self-defense.

The international community's silence over the Serb aggression on Bosnia is seen as a sort of reward for the Serbs for committing such aggression. It remains to be seen how the Islamic countries will tackle the issue. The world appears to be carefully watching the approach and reaction of the Islamic countries to the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina. A decisive attitude to the crisis will prove the Islamic countries' prowess in tackling other crises in the Islamic world.

This is why the ICO should not content itself with convening a session and making decisions without putting them into practice. If need be, the Islamic countries should join the military operations against the Serb aggression, despite the unpleasantness of the repercussions of such a measure and the possibility of it resulting in conflict and war. In the international circumstances, it is not possible to have a reliable foreign policy without resorting to threats on the use of military force.

Daily Criticizes UN, Calls on ICO To Defend Bosnia

LD1207124993 Tehran IRNA in English 1234 GMT
12 Jul 93

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA—A Persian daily Monday [12 July] termed the United Nations organization as a war criminal urged the world of Islam to utilize the oil weapon and other means to defend the oppressed Bosnian Muslims.

"JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" in its editorial said that the United Nations in a "criminal" move has imposed medical and foodstuff blockade on the oppressed Bosnian Muslims and the U.N. Relief Agency suspended all aid convoys to the Muslim-dwelling areas for at least 72 hours.

Criticizing the dual approach of the U.N., it said the Security Council remained indifferent towards Iraqi war crimes against Iran for years and even supported the aggressor. But during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the Security Council condemned Baghdad within a few hours and called for its unconditional withdrawal.

Now, it is the Bosnia's turn, it said adding that after over a year and a half of passive encounter, the United Nations has dared to decide and to act, but it has entered into the scene against the victims and is threatening Muslims from all directions instead of the aggressor and criminal Serbs.

Commenting on the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in Islamabad, Pakistan the daily deplored that the world of Islam was unable to correspond itself and its stands with the volatile developments in Bosnia.

Foreign ministers of 16 OIC member states met in Islamabad Monday to review the developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina and coordinate their stances on the dispatch of peace-keeping forces to B-H.

It called on the OIC to act in a revolutionary manner at least for once and prove that they can defend an Islamic country in the heart of Europe through proper, rational and effective decisions compatible with the critical developments in Bosnia.

"If the United States, Britain and all satanic powers have any force, it stems from our weak operations and the passive encounter of world of Islam," said the daily adding that "oil and all weapons that the world of Islam has at its disposal can and should be utilized in the interest of the oppressed Bosnian Muslims."

Indian President Stops Over, Meets Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD1307105493 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT
13 Jul 93

[Text] India's president [Shankar Dayal Sharma] stopped over briefly in Tehran this morning on his way to Ukraine and met with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. At the meeting, which was also attended by a number of the two countries' officials, our country's president welcomed the Indian president and said he is delighted at the expansion of relations with India. He also considered that President Dayal Sharma's trip to be a sign of the depth of friendship and sincerity that exists between the two countries.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized the need for deepening bilateral relations in the political and economic fields, especially technical and industrial cooperation. He described India as among those countries which Iran is keen to cooperate with.

The Indian president noted the profound impact of Iranian culture and the Persian language on India and the fondness with which the Indian people and intellectuals regard Iran and the Persian language. He commented on his trip to Iran, Turkey, Ukraine, Hungary, and India's cooperation with these countries and emphasized the Indian Government's profound interest in cooperation and the expansion relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Indian Foreign Secretary Dixit Visits for Talks**Meets Oil Minister**

*LD1207144293 Tehran IRNA in English 1406 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Tehran, July 12, (IRNA)—The visiting Indian Foreign Secretary J.N. Dixit and Iran's minister of oil, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i here Monday [12 July] held talks on mutual cooperation in the field of energy.

Dixit termed Tehran-New Delhi energy cooperation as a solid base for expansion of cooperation in other fields.

He announced the support of the Indian Government for the project of piping Iranian gas to India and called for execution of the plan as well as receiving Iranian crude oil.

Aqazadeh-Kho'i welcomed expansion of bilateral cooperation in the field of oil and gas and said the energy cooperation marked the beginning of strategic and long-term cooperation in the interest of the two countries.

Received by Hashemi-Rasfanzani

*LD1207174893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] President Hashemi-Rasfanzani this afternoon received Indian Foreign Secretary J.N. Dixit, who was bearing a written message from Indian Prime Minister Rao.

At the meeting, referring to the particular conditions in the region and the common denominators between Iran and India, the president said: Increasing cooperation, finding new ways, and further deepening the cooperation would be beneficial to the Iranian and Indian nations.

Mr. Hashemi-Rasfanzani said the existing trust between the Iranian and Indian authorities was a good basis for the future of mutual ties. He added: In addition to being among Third World countries, the two countries have had historical and cultural ties for a long time. Cooperation has always been beneficial to the two countries, the region, and the world.

Mr. Hashemi-Rasfanzani stressed the necessity for increasing cooperation between Third World countries and more correctly using the existing resources and facilities in those countries to accommodate technical, industrial, and economic needs.

He said: Accomplishing that important task would be a fundamental step toward shedding reliance and total independent of Third World countries.

At the start of the meeting, the Indian deputy foreign secretary handed over a written message from the Indian prime minister. He said: The friendly ties between the two great countries of Iran and India are not only

beneficial to the two nations, but are also an important factor for stability and peace in the region.

Discusses Cooperation With Borujerdi

*LD1307080693 Tehran IRNA in English 0721 GMT
13 Jul 93*

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA—Visiting Indian Foreign Secretary J.N. Dixit and Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs 'Ala'eddin Borujerdi explored avenues to further promote bilateral economic and cultural cooperation here Monday. Dixit said New Delhi is interested in boosting mutual ties in various fields and voiced India's readiness to contribute in several reconstruction projects in Iran. He also said that India was prepared to upgrade bilateral trade level.

Borujerdi said that the 500 million dollar worth of exchanges between the two countries was a token of the increasing bilateral cooperation. Dixit heading an ecological delegation arrived here Saturday on a four-day official visit.

Va'ez, Croat Muslim Discuss Support for Bosnians

*NC1007081693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0230 GMT
10 Jul 93*

[Text] The leader of the Croatian Muslims Democratic Party (Eqdam), (Salem Masaic), met Mahmud Va'ez, the deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, and criticized the indifference of international organizations toward the problems of Bosnia-Herzegovina. He called on Islamic countries to make a serious decision on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina at the extraordinary session of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] in Islamabad.

In his meeting with (Masaic), Va'ez stated: The Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina are under siege by the Serbs and Croats in the heart of Europe and are being massacred. International organizations have wrested the right of the Bosnians to defend themselves and permitted the Serbs to continue their genocide and massacre of the Muslims.

The Iranian minister stressed Iran's support for the Bosnian Muslims' rights at the extraordinary ICO session in Islamabad.

Transportation Agreements Signed With Ukraine

*LD0907205193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT
9 Jul 93*

[Text] At the end of talks held in Tehran between Mohammad Sa'idi-Kia, our country's roads and transport minister, and Orest Dmytrovykh Klympush, the Ukrainian transport minister, a memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the two countries on

transport affairs and three separate agreements on air, road and sea transport were signed today.

According to a Central News Unit correspondent, based on the road transportation agreement between Iran and Ukraine, a new route will be opened for the transit of goods between Iran and Europe, using roads through Azerbaijan, Russia and Ukraine and the Islamic Republic of Iran. It will carry some of the goods Iran imports from Western and Central Europe without having to pass through the republics of former Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Turkey. Iran will also use the new route as a transit route for some of its exports to Europe.

On the basis of the air transport agreement, there is to be at least one direct flight each week between Tehran and Kiev by the two countries' airlines.

In addition, on the basis of the sea transport agreement, the two countries' sea transport organizations will use one another's ports for the import, export and transit of goods.

At the time of signing the documents on cooperation between Iran and Ukraine, Sa'idi-Kia and Klypush told our correspondent: The new land route for the transportation of goods from Iran to Azerbaijan, Russia, Ukraine, Central and Western Europe is a shorter route than the previous route used for the transit of goods from Iran to Europe, and it will allow Iran to carry out imports and exports without the difficulties existing on the route through former Yugoslavia and at a lower cost.

The Ukrainian transport minister also said: According to the two countries' agreements, the use of the route from Ukraine to Europe will be possible without the payment of any fees or tax.

Vice President, Albanian Official Discuss Ties

LD1107124593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] First Vice President Hasan Habibi today met with Mr. Palush, adviser to the Albanian prime minister, and expressed satisfaction at Albania's rejoining the Islamic countries. Mr. Habibi also placed emphasis on the expansion of the two countries' relations. He announced the readiness of Iran to help reconstruct Albania and expand Islamic culture in that country.

Mr. Palush handed over a written message from the Albanian prime minister to Mr. Habibi and said: Years of communist rule in Albania did a great deal of damage in our country. He added: Today we have given top priority to bringing back spirituality to the people and attending to the country's economy. It is in this regard that our government and nation wish to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Trade, Economic Pacts Signed with Afghan Province

LD1007164193 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., July 10, IRNA—Afghanistan and Iran are to cooperate in the fields of commerce, industry, mining, agriculture and animal husbandry, general manager of the economic coordination office of Khorasan [Province]'s governor general, Seyed Hoseyn Ahmadi told IRNA here today.

Ahmadi said that based on an agreement, signed last week between the provincial officials and an economic-trade delegation from Afghan Herat Province, the two sides agreed to establish chambers of commerce and to hold industrial and commercial fairs in Herat and Mashhad.

He said that the agreement also called for following up of the issues concerning re-checking of the Afghans' transit and non-transit goods at the customs office known as 'Do-Qarun,' located on the border between Iran and Afghanistan. It will provide an opportunity for traders to hold seminars where they can discuss issues of mutual interests, offer lists of the exportable goods and issuing visas for traders and merchants who are regularly and actively travelling in between.

Ahmadi said the two sides also announced their readiness to invest jointly in such different sectors as industry and mining, agriculture and animal husbandry.

The Iranian party also announced its readiness to offer technological and expert consultation services, to broaden industrial ties with, and to establish small industrial production centers in, Herat to produce handcrafts and educational tools.

The memo indicates that Khorasan's experts will go to Herat in order to study and propose methods of exploitation of Herat's mines based on the requirements specified by the Afghan party.

Ahmadi said the Afghan delegation voiced its readiness to purchase industrial and mining machineries from Iran and that the two sides agreed to commission a group of their agricultural experts to conduct research activities in Herat.

'Serious' Stance on Armenia Called For

NC0907152593 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 Jun 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Our Reaction Must Be Serious"]

[Text] Mardakert, the last town with Azeri population in Nagorno-Karabakh fell into the hands of the Armenian forces, and Suret Guseynov, the leader of the Azeri rebels announced he would pull out his forces from Baku and dispatch them to the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

While the struggle for power goes on in Azerbaijan, the fall of a new town in the former Soviet republic has added to the complexities of the situation.

Unfortunately the greatest mistake committed by the groups involved in the power struggle in Azerbaijan so far has been to neglect the potentials of their own people as the main source of resolving their problems, and to put too much trust on outside forces. The Popular Front in particular has been guilty of such a mistake in the course of the past year.

As we have mentioned before, the armed encounter in Nagorno-Karabakh is a reactionary war which will benefit neither of the two Azeri and Armenian nations.

For her part Iran has repeatedly exhibited her goodwill, and has taken initiatives to bring the futile military engagement to an end, while preserving an impartial position at all times.

But this should not be taken to mean that the two warring sides should go ahead and occupy territory from the other side as soon as they have the upper hand in the military confrontation.

The occupation of the Azeri-populated towns by the Armenian forces is to be condemned no matter what justification may be offered.

The Armenians should realize that by their acts of transgression and the occupation of the Azeri territories, they will force the international community to adopt positions against them.

The occupation of the Azeri territories will undoubtedly lead to a series of military operations by the Azeris. And that will in turn set in motion a chain reaction of offensive and defensive operations, resulting in more and more bloodshed and devastation.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry should not adopt an indifferent position or condone the occupation of the Azeri territories by the Armenian forces.

The leaders in Yerevan should realize that Iran is against the occupation of territories in any country by foreign forces and will not allow expansionist policies by any country to create an insecure atmosphere near her frontiers.

Our reaction must be serious.

Commentary Views Mubarak-al-Asad Meeting

LD0907212093 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The presidents of Egypt and Syria have pursued important talks behind closed doors for two days in the port of Latakia in Syria. Apparently the topic of discussion has been the 10th round of the Middle East talks and the important world issues.

The Syrian president, Hafiz al-Asad, toward the end of these talks, participated in a joint press conference with the Egyptian president, Hosni Mubarak, and said: No progress has been achieved in the Syria-Israeli talks, and in certain cases these talks have had a falling trend.

While referring to the Middle East issue, which is a very complicated issue, Mr. Mubarak said: Talks cannot achieve any result in 10 rounds. He also stressed that leaving the peace talks will not certainly be in the interest of the Arabs, and therefore talks must continue.

Syria's dissatisfaction with the trend of talks, which in the words of Mr. Hafiz al-Asad, has not had any progress, and in certain cases has had a falling trend, has strengthened this possibility that Syria is fed up with the continuation of talks toward the future of which it is not much optimistic. As soon as it has become clear for the Arab world that the United States has not acted neutrally as Arabs expected during the talks, and rather it has supported Israel more than ever before, the failure of the talks is not out of expectation. It is also believed that Syrian stand on the continuation or discontinuation of talks is crucial, for the United States and Israel are most worried about Syria, and it seems that Hafiz al-Asad, without having access to Golan Heights, cannot practically reach a lasting peace with Israel. The United States and Israel know this matter well, and it is on this basis that they refer to making concessions once in a while.

But the reality is that Syria is not in a position to compromise on Golan Heights in a way that its territorial integrity will be harmed. Nevertheless, Hafiz al-Asad does not seem to be willing to accept the final responsibility of failure in reconciliation dialogues. The world and regional conditions are not in a way for Syria to give up having more precise calculations on the impact of its stance. Some analysts have assessed the publication of an opposition statement by 10 Palestinian groups in relation to transfer of peace talks and topic analysis of discussions to various Arab capitals and Damascus as a sign of serious tendency to announce surrender before the U.S. pressures, though they believe that Syria is not willing to withdraw from the peace talks.

The 10 combatant Palestinian groups which are against the transfer, who are topic analysis of discussions to the Arab capitals, believe that this is a new plot hatched by the United States aimed at forcing Arabs to indirectly recognize the Zionist regime. [sentence as heard]

At any rate, Hafiz al-Asad's comments saying that we cannot pass judgment very quickly on the role the Americans have played in the talks, as a matter of fact means that Syria has opened the way for the continuation of their dialogues. Nevertheless, he has not hidden his dissatisfaction with the Zionists' obstinacy and the United States sever support for them. [sentence as heard]

It is believed that Hosni Mubarak and Hafiz al-Asad have tried not to make their differences public at the end of their talks. But beyond a doubt their views have not been identical in all aspects, though one can say that

Syria and Egypt have relative identical views on the continuation of the talks. A high-ranking PLO political delegation's visit to Damascus right after the talks held between the Syrian and Egyptian presidents may somehow shed light on this issue and cause Syria and Palestinians to adopt more harmonized stands in the probable next round of talks.

Mubarak Regime 'Lost Control,' Using 'Terror'

LD1007085093 Tehran IRNA in English 0650 GMT
10 Jul 93

[Text] Tehran, July 10, IRNA—Six more members of the Jama'ah al-Islamiyah (Islamic groups) are to be hanged in Egypt by end of July or the first week of August, Egyptian state-run daily AL-AHRAM Friday [9 July] reported. The six are accused of attempting to kill the Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif. The paper said the trial will reopen next week.

The Egyptian regime Thursday hanged seven members of Muslim groups for attacking tourists and conspiring to overthrow the regime of Husni Mubarak. A military court had condemned the seven out of 43 accused to death on 20 April for attacking tourists between July and December last year. Three were given life-imprisonment. Not one person had lost his life in those attacks. Two other Muslim activists were hanged for alleged terrorist activities in June.

The execution of such a large number of people at one time reveals that the regime of Husni Mubarak has lost control and is using terror methods to frighten the population.

A paper specializing in Arab affairs has questioned the fairness of the military courts in Egypt. "The government mustered an impressive array of confessional, eyewitnesses, forensic and circumstantial evidence against over 100 defendants in four military cases. But questions are now being asked as to whether the evidence stood the test of due process," commented the Athens-based MIDDLE EAST TIMES in its recent issue.

A panel of 24 Islamist defense attorneys, led by 'Abd-al-Hamid Mandur, charged that the military courts have no constitutional right to try these cases. They accused the military courts of excluding witnesses, of allocating them insufficient time to prepare their cases. "Putting civilian defendants in military court is unconstitutional," lawyer Asfur told the weekly.

The Islamist panel defended the accused in four major military trials: the group of 49 charged with attacking tourists in Upper Egypt, the group of 14 charged with the attempted assassination of minister of information, two groups of 40 Afghanistan returnees charged with conspiracy and 46 others charged with membership in the banned organisations of 'Jihad' and 'Takfir'.

"In military trials the judges can refuse to hear any witnesses they do not consider to be important," lawyer Hasaballah told the weekly paper.

Mandur's panel withdrew from the trials considering them unfair and illegitimate.

In the first session of the the tourism case, the Islamist lawyers requested a week to prepare a case from 3,000 pages of documents. They were granted five days, three of which were 'Id al-Fitr holidays. The lawyers skipped the second session of the tourism case to prepare their case, and when they arrived at the gates of the compound they found the judge had barred them from the court. At this point, the defense decided to boycott the Safwat al-Sharif trial as well. The court appointed defense lawyers from a list provided by the lawyer's syndicate, but the defendants refused to accept them and consequently the trial proceeded with neither the defendants nor the lawyers present.

The official Cairo press Friday dubbed those hanged as "terrorists." A first-page report in daily AL-AHRAM titled "Execution of Seven Terrorists in the Case of Attack Against Tourism."

The opposition daily AL-WAFD in its lead first page story bannered "Execution of Seven Accused in the Tourism Case." The paper published photos of six of those hanged.

'Abd-al-Rahman Arrest, Turkish Protests Viewed

NC1107113093 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian
4 Jul 93 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed commentary: "Two Incidents, Two News Reports"]

[Text] The blind combatant Egyptian cleric Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman, who was recently arrested, went to the United States because of pressure and threats by the Egyptian Government. Following pressure by the Mubarak regime and in view of the atmosphere created over months by the U.S. mass media, the combatant Egyptian was pursued by the FBI and federal police and arrested and imprisoned on the pretext of a lack of proper documentation for residence in the United States.

In an extensive propaganda campaign, the U.S. media announced that Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman is the main motivator of those responsible for the recent bombing of the World Trade Center. It appears his arrest marks a new phase in the coordinated and calculated U.S. campaign against Muslim combatants in Egypt and elsewhere.

With such actions, the Clinton administration is seeking to create conditions for greater control over the massive public protests in Egypt over the increasing pressure and tyranny.

In the past few months, despite the brutal policy of the Egyptian police and security forces, the popular protest movements in Egypt have increased and the Egyptian Government is in the worst situation it has been in for years. The moves by the Egyptian Muslim combatants, which have assumed international dimensions, and their efforts to expose the crimes of the Mubarak regime have inspired fear not only in the ranks of that regime, but also in its supporters abroad.

The United States is one of the main bases for the activities of the Egyptian combatants who have played a prominent role in exposing the Mubarak regime's policies. In the past few years, Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman, has—through his sermons and speeches— informed the world about the discord in Egypt. This is why he has been subjected to intense propaganda pressure by the United States and Israel.

The recent bombing of the World Trade Center in New York found the U.S. mass media attributing it to the supporters and students of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman. Despite the police being unable to find acceptable documents, the federal police declared his stay illegal and issued a warrant for his arrest as a pretext instead. It is said that the U.S. police plan to hand the cleric over to the Egyptian security forces. The Egyptian regime plans to condemn this combatant Egyptian and thus pave the way for suppressing the popular Islamic movement in Egypt.

The Islamic group of Egypt has denounced the U.S. Administration for arresting Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and has announced that if it wants to torture or harass the cleric or to extradite him to Egypt, U.S. interests worldwide will be attacked. Direct U.S. confrontation of Muslim combatants internationally, especially in its direct and interventionist role in North Africa, creates many problems for the United States, whose effects will be harmful.

The Clinton administration has lost much of its popularity quickly because of the chaotic domestic situation. By carrying out international political moves, it seeks to shrug off some of the internal pressure and strives to create the conditions to extricate itself on the pretext of foreign political crises. But experience has shown that the Democrats' international actions don't solve their problems; they add to the scale of their political and domestic disarray.

Second Event

Aziz Nesin, the laicist, racist Turkish author, spoke at the inauguration of a cultural center last Thursday. While attacking Islamic sanctities, he announced that he was an atheist and had doubts regarding the prophet of Islam, Muhammad (peace be upon him and his scion), and the holy Koran. His insulting remarks greatly infuriated the Turkish Muslims, who attacked his home after Friday prayers and demanded his arrest and punishment.

The violent clash that ensued between the protesters and the security police left 37 dead and several wounded. The hotel he was staying at was set on fire and he was taken to the hospital under the supervision of the security police.

Aziz Nesin is one of Turkey's laicist figures and has sought to follow the path set by Salman Rushdie. He enjoys the complete support of the Zionists and anti-Islamic circles in the West and has recently accelerated his anti-Islamic activities. Despite vehement opposition by the Muslim people of Turkey, he translated and published parts of the book *Satanic Verses* by Salman Rushdie. Although he was supported by important political figures such as Inonu and the Turkish minister of culture, public pressure meant he could not publish more than 13 chapters of the book in his magazine.

But it appears that, instigated by anti-Islamic circles, Nesin intended to boost his anti-Islamic activities in Turkey again; he had to encounter the reaction of the Turkish Muslims. Now, Nesin has emerged as the symbol of the anti-Islamic actions of the West and laicist Turkey. The author of the *Satanic Verses*, Salman Rushdie, struck by fear at the violent sentiments Nesin's remarks created among Turkish Muslims, said in an interview he had not given permission for Nesin to translate his book.

This reaction by Rushdie indicates that he is trying to distance himself from the uproar generated by the issue. The Turkish prime minister announced that the security police are in control of things in Sivas and has asked the indignant people in the city to remain calm.

The spark ignited in the city of Sivas and in Turkey has instilled dread in all the political circles in Turkey; the Turkish echelons appear to be experiencing their first taste of such a problem. Due to his close contacts with the Zionists and rightist circles, Demirel, who intends to change things in Turkey and pave the way to absorb greater assistance from the United States and Zionist circles, finds himself in a quandary and sees no easy way out.

With the demise of Ozal and Demirel's assuming power, the laicists and Zionist circles in this country became more dynamic. The influence of the rightists such as Inonu has made Turkey's future rather ambiguous. The Turkish Muslim people and the world's Muslims will certainly not remain silent in the face of continuing insults against Islamic sanctities, especially the great prophet of Islam and the divine book the Koran. It is time Turkish officials considered these sentiments.

Paper Says U.S. 'Threats' Will Not 'Terrify' Country

NC1107205693 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian
29 Jun 93 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "The U.S. Return to the Era of Barbarism"]

[Text] The U.S. missile attack on Iraq that took place on an imaginary pretext has been fully condemned by independent nations and governments, and even though the Iraqi Government played a role in preparing the way for it, the U.S. action was a completely criminal act and a sign of America's return to the era of barbarism and medieval methods. The failure of the Democratic administration to put the U.S. domestic situation in order and the drop in Clinton's popularity made the Democrats seek new crises in the world in order to get out of their impasse. Remarks by U.S. officials on the adoption of a completely terrorist and harsh stance against those governments and nations that oppose U.S. policies paints a new picture of America's terrorist policy—a policy that the United States has tried to hide until now but has implemented in various ways and under the label of so-called humanitarian acts.

By threatening nations and governments that oppose its policies, the United States is moving in a direction that will only lead to world chaos. America's unprecedented bullying and blackmailing during the past years has seriously threatened world peace and security and it seems that by showing their claws and teeth, the White House officials want to rule the world by force and violence. However, the Americans more than anyone else know that the era of their superiority, leadership, and forceful diktat on the people of the world has ended and they will never be able to rule the world with such criminal acts.

The Clinton administration, which started off by advocating human rights and confrontation with terrorism, is now facing a clear impasse and is itself leading in terrorist acts. Exploiting the situation which Saddam's regime has created in recent years cannot be a pretext for America's ugly and inhuman acts. The world's independent nations and governments will never allow the United States to resort to such bullying and the Democrats will be the main losers in this terrorist policy.

The merciless massacre of the people in Iraq, in Bosnia, and in Palestine—and that, on the pretext of peace, security, and human rights—will not solve any problems. The U.S. Administration's organized terrorism on the world level will only intensify anti-U.S. feelings in the world.

During the past few months, the Clinton administration has been under heavy pressure by U.S. arms industries, and military officials regard Clinton's economic policies as the reason for the gradual destruction of their interests. Clinton's failure to gain the support of these powerful companies in the United States and the gradual defeat of his economic policies have made the White House politicians show their harsh face in a bid to cheer up the arms companies and the powerful groups and to give them hopes for the future sale of their products.

In the coming months, Clinton will organize terrorist activities. But if the Democrats want to threaten other

nations and governments with such acts, they will inevitably be threatening their own interests. The method of direct U.S. threat is a coordinated policy that enjoys the Zionists' support. Recently the Zionist government has officially and overtly condemned to death all the companies and governments that want to send military equipment to independent countries, among them Iran. Such coordinated acts, the take-off point of which is considered to be the missile attack on Baghdad, is a new policy which the Democrats and their Zionist mentors have adopted and which should be named the policy of America's return to the era of barbarism and the Middle Ages. This is the revelation of America's true face and the inclusion of the policy of terrorism in America's foreign policy strategy. But independent nations and governments of the world and among them the Iranian Government and nation will never be terrified by such threats.

Extraordinary Meeting of All Oil Producers Urged

*LD1207090693 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT
12 Jul 93*

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA—The English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' Monday [12 July] said that the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) should call all non-OPEC oil producing countries to an extraordinary meeting to harmonize oil production and export policies. Referring to the sharp decline in oil prices, the daily's editorial said that this can have very disturbing effects on the economies of the oil producing nations, particularly on the economies of the OPEC members.

"The recent negotiations on the resumption of oil exports by Iraq, overproduction by some of the OPEC members and the non-OPEC oil-producing nations, coupled with other factors—of which the most significant is the imposition of tax on energy consumption by the Western countries—augur dark prospects for the oil market."

"The oil-producing Arab nations are planning to conclude a treaty with the objective of curbing the further decline of oil prices which could come about after Iraq resumes oil export." It added, "The Arab countries are requesting the United Nations to set up new terms for Iraq's oil export...they want to make sure that Iraq does not create a chaotic situation in oil market by offering exceptional discounts."

Terming OPEC as the "main coordinator" of the oil production and export activities, the paper said "for the moment OPEC has to exert a tight control over the market. It should also try to persuade the non-OPEC oil-producing nations to coordinate their oil production and export activities with OPEC." This would be of vital significance for all oil-producing nations, and in the long run it will safeguard the interests of both the OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers, it noted.

The editorial said in conclusion that among the immediate steps which should be taken by OPEC was to call all non-OPEC oil-producing countries to an extraordinary meeting for harmonizing oil production and export policies with the ultimate aim of bringing to a halt the declining trend in the oil prices.

* Foundation Chief on Return of Confiscated Properties

93LA0104A London KEYHAN in Persian 8 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] Assets that are in the possession of the "foundation" for which a final decision has been issued cannot be returned. However, some assets, which are only impounded because their owners were not present in the courts, may be reconsidered. Mohsen Rafiqdust, supervisor of the "foundation," gave an interview to the Japanese newspaper GIZA'I. He added that the "foundation" has ownership confiscation of assets of the first type, but with regard to assets of the second type, after the court investigation if a confiscation order was issued the assets are given to the foundation. Otherwise, the foundation gets a fee for supervising these assets and the rest goes back to the owner. (The fee for supervising is figured at 5 percent per year in current prices)

Rafiqdust expressed the hope that the Ministry of Petroleum will authorize the foundation to build a chemical refinery, as the foundation requested. However, now investment in the oil sector is confined to the Bahrani Oil Company, which produces various kinds of oils and refined oil products.

He said: The foundation is now active in the transportation sector and ship travel between the Mediterranean, the Persian Gulf, and the Far East. Concerning air transportation, Rafiqdust said: The government has authorized the foundation to establish an airline company and its activities will begin soon.

Rafiqdust said: Some of the assets, which have been held by the foundation, were sold or returned to the private sector. For example, the Mercedes Benz Company was transferred to the Khavar company; and all the contracts between Mercedes Benz and the foundation were transferred to this company. Toyota has also been sold to the private sector, but the foundation is negotiating with the Japanese company about assembling Hondas in Iran.

On the other hand, Gholamreza Aqazadeh, minister of petroleum, said that in the Second Five-Year Plan private sector investments are planned in the petrochemical industry, and this is a priority in the aforementioned ministry.

Nepal

New Budget 'Heavily Dependent' on Foreign Aid, Loans

BK1107160193 Hong Kong AFP in English 1540 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Kathmandu, July 11 (AFP)—The Nepal Government Sunday [11 July] announced a 1993/94 fiscal

budget of 35.5 billion rupees (724.8 million dollars), heavily dependent on foreign-aid and loans, officials said.

The fiscal year starts July 16.

In a more than one hour speech broadcast over radio and television Minister of State for Finance Mahesh Acharya earmarked 22.6 billion rupees (462 million dollars) for development expenditure.

A further 12.9 billion rupees has been laid aside for regular expenditure out of which, 3.38 billion is earmarked for police, defence and other civil service salaries.

Acharya said at least 68.9 percent of the development expenditure would be met from foreign aid and loans.

The government hopes to collect 18.08 billion rupees in revenues which include fresh tax proposals, land revenues, increased sales taxes and tourism.

The visa fee has been raised 100 percent to 40 dollars for 30 days. Similarly, an additional 100 rupees has been added to the 550 rupee embarkation tax. Earnings from the added embarkation tax will be used to tackle environmental problems.

Acharya also announced increased duties on cigarettes, roasted tobacco, beer and liquor.

Duties have been lowered on goods from India, Tibet and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to make imports from these countries cheaper than those imported from European and other Asian countries like Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore.

One of the significant points announced by Acharya included the abolition of controls on imports of items like zippers (fasteners), cosmetics, imitation jewelry, wheel bearings, dry fruits including cloves, cardamom and beetle nuts.

Acharya has earmarked 6.32 billion rupees for economic services like agriculture, irrigation, land reform and forestry development.

An estimated 3.28 billion rupees has been set aside for public utilities like transport development, bridge construction, aviation and the development of other facilities.

Various industries are to get 5.8 billion rupees, while 810 million rupees were earmarked for communications development and 7.8 billion for social services like education, health, local development, clean drinking water and leakage control projects.

Under the proposed budget, education up to seventh grade (lower secondary) has been made free benefitting more than 348,000 students nationwide.

Duty on Imports From India Reduced

BK1107162693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Nepal has announced up to 20-percent reduction in customs duty on imports from India. The announcement was made in the budget for 1993-94 presented to the country's parliament this evening by the finance minister, Mr. Mahesh Acharya. Customs duty will be reduced by 20 percent for the items in the duty slab of 5 to 60 percent while for other goods attracting up to 110 percent duty, the relief will be 10 percent. Talking to AIR Kathmandu correspondent, the prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, described the budget as balanced with thrust on decentralization and relief to common man. The opposition leaders, however, described it as a status quo budget with only cosmetic changes.

Prime Minister: Economic Development 'Uphill Task'

BK1107024093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0133 GMT 11 Jul 93

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, July 11 (AFP)—Economic and industrial reform has gone some way to boosting Nepal's impoverished economy, but the country's prime minister admits that much remains to be done to meet the demands of the Nepalese people.

While pronouncing himself "satisfied" with Nepal's economic performance in the current fiscal year ending mid-July, Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala said this week there was still a pressing need to develop the Himalayan kingdom's infrastructure and improve the lot of the average Nepali citizen.

However, "it is an uphill task for the government of a poor country like Nepal, faced with the rising demands and expectations of the people, to make a solid start towards this goal," Koirala told parliament on Friday [9 July].

"Though the government could not so far brighten the country's economic prospects, it has been working to better them," he said, pointing to new economic and industrial policies that he said had greatly encouraged foreign capital investment in Nepalese industries.

"During the past two years, the government had already issued industrial licences worth 13 billion rupees (262.62 million dollars) to investors in banking, industrial and tourism sectors and some of the industries have already been established," Koirala said.

He also spoke of "satisfactory" economic progress over the past eleven months of the current fiscal year, despite a poor showing in the agricultural sector.

Severe droughts in some regions over the past 11 months saw a 1.2 percent decline in food production to 4.29

million tonnes, with paddy production especially badly hit to register a 19.8 percent decline. However, an increase of 8.29 percent in non-agricultural production had helped push up the country's gross domestic product by an estimated three percent, Koirala said.

According to a Ministry of Finance official, Nepal's foreign exchange reserves increased to 627.47 million dollars over the 11-month period, from 458.5 million dollars, with convertible currency accounting for 90 percent of the total.

Money supply grew 17.3 percent, which the governments economic critics put down to a failure to utilize foreign exchange. However the growth rate was down on the 30.4 percent recorded in the previous fiscal year.

Koirala said the government's policies had also resulted in a drastic cut in the double-digit inflation rate of fiscal 1991-92, while at the same time boosting Nepalese exports.

"The inflation rate during the current fiscal year has been brought down to 5.3 percent from the previous year's 21 percent," Koirala said, adding that exports had increased 32 percent compared to a 12.4 percent rise in imports.

Total trade was valued at 795.15 million dollars, with the country's trade deficit recording a drop of 2.3 percent, compared to a 24.1 percent increase in the previous fiscal year.

"Simplified exports procedures and the devaluation of the Nepalese currency vis-a-vis convertible currencies were the primary reasons for the improvement in foreign trade," the finance ministry official said.

Political Unrest Said Hindering Tourism, Development

BK1007025093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0215 GMT 10 Jul 93

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, July 10 (AFP)—Continuing anti-government unrest in Nepal could have a serious long-term effect on the Himalayan kingdom's tourism industry, tour organizers and officials here say.

An important foreign currency earner, tourism has already been badly hit by the ten days of political agitation that began June 25 and in which as many as 25 people may have died.

"The last two general strikes and the political agitation have already caused a loss of 150 million rupees (300,000 dollars) and if it continues next month also, the industry could lose another 350 million rupees (seven million dollars)," said a Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) spokesman.

According to one Department of Tourism official, the ten-day unrest forced more than 50 trekking operators to cancel planned tours at a time when the industry was looking to expand trekking operations.

"The Nepalese Government had recently opened up more northwestern districts ... in a bid to develop mountain tourism," the official said.

Some 300,000 tourists visited Nepal in 1992, bringing in 52 million dollars and creating 200,000 jobs directly while benefitting 500,000 indirectly, the HAN spokesman said.

The recent unrest was sparked by a government report on the controversial deaths of two Nepal Communist Party (United Marxist and Leninist) (NCP-UML) leaders in a vehicle accident which put negligence as the cause.

Nepal's communist factions want a judicial commission to probe the May 16 jeep accident which resulted in the death of NCP-UML general secretary Madan Kumar Bhandari, a strong critic of the government, and central committee member Jeev Raj Ashrit.

The NCP-UML in its own report claimed the two leaders were murdered and the driver was involved in the conspiracy.

Communist opposition parties issued Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala with an ultimatum Wednesday, telling him to resign and call fresh elections or face a month of mass protests, including a three-day general strike.

Koirala said Friday that he had no intention of stepping down.

Faced with the prospect of continued unrest, eight non-governmental tourist organizations, including the HAN, have issued a joint appeal to all political parties and the general public to maintain peace and security in the country and help tourist development.

Nepal "is known to the outside world as a land of peace, serenity and harmony," the joint statement said. "But now the image of Nepal and its people has been tarnished as a country of violence, disturbance and insecurity due to the recent political agitation."

A planned three-day transport strike later this month and the general strike threatened for August 9-11, "may cause a loss of over 35 crores (seven million dollars) to the tourism industry by mid-August," the statement added.

"Unless normalcy returns to Nepal immediately, we risk irreparable damage to tourism and related industries."

The statement also called on demonstrators to confine their protests to designated areas so as to minimize disruption to essential services.

"Please give us a peaceful environment, we will make Nepal a prosperous country," it said.

The unrest has left luxury and middle class hotels with only 20 to 25 percent occupancy, while a Nepal Restaurant Owners Association said his members were also being hard hit.

Pakistan

President, Prime Minister Meet, Discuss Crisis

BK1207142693 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, met the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, at the Aiwan-i-Sadr [President House] today in two separate sessions. In the first session, which was held for about 90 minutes in the morning, Mottaheda Deeni Mahaz [United Religious Front] leaders—Senator Maulana Samiul Haq, Maulana Mufti Zainul Abedin, Maulana Moinuddin Lakhvi, MNA [member of National Assembly] Qazi Abdul Latif, Maulana Abdul Baqi, and Maulana Arif Suleman Rokari—were also present. The second session was held in the afternoon and lasted for about an hour. It was a one-to-one meeting.

During the two sessions, the president and the prime minister discussed various aspects of the current political situation and considered ways and means to defuse it. They agreed to meet again and continue the dialogue.

The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, expressing optimism about his ongoing dialogue with the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, said the process was in progress. Talking to newsmen after the inaugural session of the special ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] ministerial conference in Islamabad, he said he was making the best efforts to steer the country out of the political difficulties. His efforts were based on sincerity and in the larger interests of the nation.

When asked about opposition's long march call, he said he did not believe in such methods. When he was out of office, he led a political movement for the restoration of his government and the National Assembly, but not a single windowpane was broken in 40 days. As far as opposition is concerned, it is up to them to decide their course. The prime minister said no cause for the welfare of the country could be served by the politics of destruction.

Talks 'Inconclusive'

BK1307134593 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 13 Jul 93 pp 1, 10

[Text] Islamabad—President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif held two long meetings on Monday [12 July]. Talks remained inconclusive but

these provided an opportunity to them to re-state their positions and give vent to their grievances and complaints against one another.

An announcement issued by Aiwan-e Sadr [President's House] said that the two leaders "discussed various aspects of the current political situation and considered ways and means to defuse it." "They agreed to meet again and continue the dialogue."

The meeting was arranged by leaders of Muthidda Deeni Mahaz including its Convener Senator Maulana Samiul Haq, Maulana Mufti Zainul Abideen, Maulana Abdul Baqi, Maulana Moinuddin Lakhvi and Maulana Arif Suleman. They were present in the first session that lasted ninety minutes.

The second round of the talks which continued for about an hour was one-to-one between the President and the Prime Minister. Little or no details were available about the one-to-one meeting of minds. The mutual mistrust persists, observers feel.

Commented a participant of the first meeting, "Both forcefully defended their respective positions."

The judicial decisions, the APC's [All Party Conference] long march, Prime Minister's complaints about Punjab and character assassination of the President were touched during the first session. A participant quoted the President as reciting a verse from the holy Koran to indicate he always speaks the truth and does what he says. The source said that both the President and Prime Minister reiterated more than once during their arguments that they were strictly adhering to the Constitution and law while performing their functions.

At one stage, the Prime Minister was quoted as saying at the first session: "President sahib, if you become neutral, I can effectively deal with the opposition and its long march politically." GIK argued that he was neutral as his office required him to be.

According to the participant, the President complained that he had been subjected to character assassination and particularly referred to the recent spate of rash statements by the PML [Pakistan Muslim League] (Nawaz Group) spokesman and ministers.

The Premier said he was also subjected to a vilification campaign by the caretaker setup, established by the President. The participant said that the Prime Minister expressed the view that the Supreme Court judgment had wiped out allegations levelled against him. The Prime Minister's main complaints related to Punjab where he alleged that everything was happening on the President's directions. He referred to his constitutional advice for the removal of Governor Chaudhry Altaf Hussain.

The President told him that the matter was under his review and said there was a procedure to remove the Governor adding that he would call an explanation from

him under the rules. He said he had to follow a specified method if he wanted to dismiss even the peon standing outside his office.

He said in a categorical tone that he was not consulted by the Punjab Chief Minister while re-dissolving the provincial assembly.

When the talk diverted on the resolution passed by the Parliament under Article 234 and the proclamation issued by the federal government immediately after it, the President said the matter was before a superior court. He and the Prime Minister agreed that they would accept its decision.

The Prime Minister mentioned the opposition's long march and the President said he had nothing to do with it. "It can be allowed if it is within bounds of the law but nothing unlawful can be permitted," the President was quoted as saying by the participant.

The participant said that the Prime Minister expressed the apprehension that if long marchers were given a free hand, the official machinery can come to a halt creating dangers for the state.

The President was of the view that his (PM's) understanding that "I support the opposition is not true. I am neutral and perform my duties under the Constitution."

The Prime Minister is said to have complained that the Chief Minister and Governor houses in Lahore are being used by the opposition to chalk out strategies against the federal government. Responding to this, the President said that these matters should be sorted out according to the law, the participant added.

The participant said that as the President received the delegation in his office, he apologised for the misunderstanding caused on Saturday due to which a meeting between him and the Prime Minister could not be held.

Qazi Abdul Latif and Maulana Abdul Baqi said in the meeting that it was for the President to take notice of the fact that the Army did not help implement the proclamation issued under Article 234. "It is a dangerous neutrality," they said. These participants told the President and the Prime Minister that the nation, Islam and the country were suffering due to their confrontation.

"We went on suppliant knees asking for reconciliation and told them that anti-Islam forces were benefiting from their tussle," Maulana Moinuddin Lakhvi told THE NEWS. "We told them that it were they and nobody else, who had to hammer out a rapprochement."

These Ulema said in the meeting that the solution of the prevailing crisis lies in a patch-up between the President and the Prime Minister and not in fresh elections.

Both the top civilian leaders thanked the mediators for making efforts to bring about reconciliation. At the end of the first session, Qazi Latif offered "dua" (prayer) for success of their mission.

Meanwhile, Maulana Samiul Haq told THE NEWS after the meeting that neither martial law nor the long march was a solution of the present crisis.

He said the situation can improve only if confidence is restored between the President and the Prime Minister. He said that responding to the President's objection about the Pakistan Muslim League spokesman's statement, the Prime Minister said that he would take action against those responsible for it.

Spokesman: President To Abide by Law, Constitution

BK1207155893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] A President's House spokesman has reiterated that the president firmly believes in constitutional means and he fully wants the supremacy of the law. He recalled that even during his recent meetings with opposition leaders, the president emphasized that it is imperative for all parties to ensure their political activities are within the provisions of the Constitution and law. The spokesman said the president has always given priority to the maintenance of law and order in all conditions which, under the Constitution, is the responsibility of the federal government and provincial governments. He also said that during his entire life Ghulam Ishaq Khan has abided by the law and he will continue to do so in the future as well. The spokesman said that the remarks attributed to the president by all those who call on him should be viewed and understood in the same background in which they were made.

Provinces Told To Maintain Order During Long March

BK1207160893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] The federal government has directed the governments of Punjab and Northwest Frontier Province strictly to maintain law and order during the opposition's long march. This was stated by Federal Interior Minister Chaudhary Shujat Hussain in Islamabad today. He said the federal government has directed these provincial governments to maintain law and order under the relevant clauses of the Constitution. He said letters to this effect have been sent to these provincial governments.

Chaudhary Shujat Hussain said the federal government is committed to maintaining law and order in the federal capital and it will take all possible steps to deal with any untoward incident. He said the government will not bow to the machinations of the opposition and it is up to the federal government to decide as to when elections should be held in the country.

Long March, Martial Law, Sharif's Options Considered

BK1207131993 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 12 Jul 93 p 10

[Editorial: "APC Should Beware of Martial Law"]

[Text] Benazir Bhutto has turned down the invitation of Mian Nawaz Sharif to negotiate as it did not entertain her three-fold package, especially the fresh polls. The prime minister, on the other hand, has turned down the suggestion of holding a referendum on the issue of midterm polls, because he rejects the possibility of holding elections before the completion of his term. Meanwhile, the meeting between the president and the prime minister could not take place on Saturday, as desired by Senator Samiul Haq and Senator Qazi Hussain Ahmad. The All Parties Conference [APC] has vowed to launch a long march on Islamabad, despite some differences among the components regarding the timing and the consequences of bringing the capital under siege. The APC's dilemma is that if it does not exert the maximum pressure on the prime minister, it cannot expect to achieve its goal, and if it goes for the long march, it may cause the breakdown of the civilian structure, and thus pave the way for martial law. At the same time, it cannot afford to miss the most opportune time for agitation prior to the judgements of the two high courts on the dissolution of the two provincial assemblies. All these developments and factors indicate one thing: An extended pressure on the prime minister to agree to have a recourse to the electorate as the most viable solution to the prevalent crisis.

But the prime minister's political future hinges upon the timing of the mid-term polls. If he concedes elections in October, without direct control of the administration, he cannot hope to win. Though he can defuse political tension by announcing to hold polls in March 1994, the opposition is not going to commit political suicide by agreeing to Mian Sahib's timing. Apart from this, the prime minister can put the opposition on the defensive by demanding the simultaneous resignation of the president along with advice to dissolve the National Assembly. On the other hand, the opposition will raise objection to the partiality of the would-be acting-president, if Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan decides to quit. The political confrontation has reached such a pass that there is no alternative to holding immediate polls. But, for obvious reasons, Mian Sahib would probably prefer martial law over going into an unwinnable election. The opposition can, however, build enough pressure for the acceptance of its demand while manipulating the cleavages within the establishment to its advantage. Nevertheless, the opposition should be cautious not to allow its agitation to become the pretext for yet another martial law.

Sri Lanka

President Tells State Media To Cut Down on Propaganda

BK1307063693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0610 GMT
13 Jul 93

[Text] Colombo, July 13 (AFP)—President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga has warned Sri Lanka's state-run broadcast media to cut down on the propaganda, saying it insulted people's intelligence and may be counter-productive, a report said Tuesday [13 July].

Wijetunga told Information Minister W.J.M. Lokubandara that state television and radio should inform without appearing to propagandise, the state-run DAILY NEWS said.

"The (government) media must at all times respect the intelligence of the audience and refrain from trying to

force its views on them. The ultimate aim should be information and not propaganda," the president was quoted as saying.

"It must provide opportunities to the government to place its policies before the people without getting undue political advantage in the process."

Shortly after assuming office following the May 1 slaying of President Ranasinghe Premadasa, Wijetunga sacked the top management of two state-run radio and television corporations and replaced them with civil servants.

Wijetunga also revoked a Premadasa order forcing a privately-owned television station to broadcast a government news bulletin which invariably devoted a considerable amount of its time to the president's activities.

The new president has distanced himself from Premadasa's brand of confrontational politics, and has appeared more conciliatory toward the opposition, which backed his election through a parliamentary electoral college.